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EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA



SIR H. H. JOHNSTON, K.C.M.G.

Photo by Thos. E. Howe, Chatham.

East Africa and Uganda

OR

OUR LAST LAND

BY

J. CATHCART WASON, M.P.

WITH A PREFACE BY

SIR HARRY JOHNSTON, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

Illustrated from Photographs by Mr. Borup of the Church
Missionary Society, Uganda, Mr. Cunningham of Uganda,
and Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart Wason.

London :

FRANCIS GRIFFITHS

34 MAIDEN LANE, STRAND, W.C

1905

TO
SIR CHARLES ELIOT, K.C.M.G.

(H.M. LATE COMMISSIONER FOR EAST AFRICA)

AS A TRIBUTE OF
RESPECT AND ADMIRATION

6, Evelyn Mansions,
Victoria, S.W.

FOREWORD

BOOKS written with avowed objects are rarely successful, but my purpose is so modest and unassuming that I anticipate with confidence some degree of success.

Here is a country where many thousands live in constant sight of starvation, where land is the playground of the rich, hundreds of thousands of acres devoted to what is called sport, where the poor can never hope to make a home.

There is a country with fertile land quite valueless for lack of population, capable of supporting hundreds of thousands in comfort and such affluence as comes from contentment; a country full of magnificent possibilities and on which we have expended many millions of money and many valuable lives.

Our Government have seriously offered to devote a large territory of this magnificent country to a syndicate for the purpose of establishing "an alien autonomous settlement," and in doing so can never have realised the evil result which must arise from such a policy.

By all means do not let us act the part of a Dog in the Manger and do not let us refuse admittance and even help to those of other race than ourselves.

Canada, Australia, and New Zealand speak for what a forward Liberal Colonising Policy can effect, but a "*special autonomous alien settlement*" carries with it every possibility of danger and trouble in the near future.

That such a scheme, under no circumstances, should be carried out by secret bargaining and regulation is self evident and has now been admitted.

J. CATHCART WASON.

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PREFACE

IN 1884, that is to say, twenty years ago, I was conducting my first expedition into what is now British East Africa. I had been entrusted with the task of exploring the flanks of the great snow-mountain Kilimanjaro. The characteristics of this beautiful land had been made known to us by the missionaries Krapf and Rebmann and the explorers Von der Decken and New. At the time of my own residence in the vicinity of Kilimanjaro, Joseph Thomson was just concluding his wonderful journey through Masailand, from Mombasa to the north-eastern shores of the Victoria Nyanza. Mr. Thomson's experiences and my own brought home perhaps more forcibly to the British public than had been conveyed to them before the fact that the interior of Equatorial East Africa was for the most part a healthy country, offering tracts of land without native inhabitants suited to white occupation. Joseph Thomson showed us the short cut to Victoria Nyanza, and was the first European to reach Kavirondo Bay. It has always been a source of regret to me that the various authorities concerned with the survey and nomenclature of the great Victoria Nyanza have not seen fit to

associate with any natural feature in that lake the name of Joseph Thomson, who next to Speke and Stanley was probably the most important discoverer in those regions.

The reports sent home by Joseph Thomson through Sir John Kirk attracted the attention of the British Government in 1883 and the early part of 1884. Mr. Gladstone himself became interested in the question of the development of British influence over this hinterland of snow mountains and elevated plateaux. Sir Charles Dilke and Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice (who had succeeded Sir Charles Dilke as Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs) were anxious that the writer of these few lines should report on the possibility of our entering into treaty relationship with the chiefs and tribes around Kilimanjaro, a scheme which had for some time been promoted by Sir John Kirk. Accordingly, when I had been able to take stock of the situation I concluded three treaties on Kilimanjaro and at Taveita which subsequently were used as the foundation of the Imperial British East Africa Company. The territory covered by the Kilimanjaro treaties was ceded by us to Germany under the first arrangement of 1885; but Taveita has to all intents and purposes been British since my treaty with the Elders of that place in the autumn of 1884.

Twenty years after these events, Mr. Cathcart Wason, the author of the book to which these few lines are a preface, is able to return and to speak in truth of the Uganda Railway as a finished work,



AFTERNOON TEA.

Colonel Coles and Captain Carmichael about to start for the Nandi country.



GREAT MASAI CHIEF. NAIVASHA.

and to confirm the stories of the many who have preceded him regarding the attractiveness and value of the lands which are now grouped under the two Protectorates of Uganda and British East Africa. But although there should be but one administration of these two Protectorates there is likely to be a somewhat different fate attending their respective territories. The Kingdom of Uganda and its adjoining provinces in the Uganda Protectorate [with the slight exception of some of the highlands on the north-east of the Ankole Plateau and Ruwenzori on the west] is in justice a black man's country, a land, that is to say, already endowed with a fairly abundant black population which has a recognized right to a large proportion of the soil, and also a land in which climatic considerations do not strongly favour white colonization. On the other hand the British East Africa Protectorate contains within its limits magnificent tablelands, such as the Nandi Plateau, really open to white enterprise from the absence of indigenous inhabitants over much of its area and the possession of a perfectly healthy, temperate climate. The Nandi Plateau and other elevated tablelands to the north in close proximity to Mount Elgon; some of the Kikuyu Country and the great mountain ranges to the north-east of Mount Kenia are veritable earthly paradises, lands of perpetual summer, where the heat is so tempered by the elevation that the white man can work out of doors all through the day. We should all greatly regret if through want of foresight and of any definite scheme of colonization this

beautiful country should go astray. We do not want to see this habitable land under the Equator handed over *en bloc* to syndicates or to autonomous foreign settlements; we want in the main that it should be offered to British settlers of the right stamp, so that an attempt may be made to plant a vigorous settlement of our own people in Equatorial Africa. The territories grouped under the British East Africa Protectorate may amount in all to an area of 200,000 square miles. The coast belt is tropical and unhealthy, and is already fairly well inhabited by Negroes, Arabs, and natives of India. Much of the Kikuyu country, the central part of the Naivasha district, and the lands bordering the Victoria Nyanza, as well as the true Nandi country to the north and south of the Nyando Valley are inhabited somewhat abundantly with an indigenous native population towards whom we must observe strict justice. Many other tracts are peopled, some thinly, some thickly, by Negroes, Negroids, or people of Gala race. A very large proportion of the northern parts of the British East Africa Protectorate is at the present day almost uninhabitable by any type of humanity (in its natural condition) owing to its lack of water. When all deductions have been made, it is scarcely likely that the British Government will have at the present time more than 20,000 square miles of land to offer to European settlers—that is to say, land which is without indigenous owners and which is healthy and suitable for European settlement. This area of 20,000 square miles is not absolutely con-



THE PRIME MINISTER, APOLLO, AND CABINET.

tinuous, but it is to a great extent confined to the southern and western parts of the East Africa Protectorate. The laws affecting British East Africa, like those of other British possessions, offer no restriction to the acquisition of land in moderate quantities by law-abiding persons of any race or colour. Jew and Gentile, Heathen, Muhammadan, and Christian can come and settle in East Africa on land which can be obtained either from private owners or from the Imperial Government ; but if land is to be given away or is to be granted on specially low and favourable terms to encourage the right kind of colonization it is to be hoped that the British Government will remember that as the British taxpayer has invested more than ten millions of his hard-earned money in constructing the Uganda Railway and in laying the foundations of the British East Africa Protectorate he might reasonably hope to be the first to be considered.

No doubt in some regions great and useful work may be done by men of capital who will be prepared to invest their money in the overcoming of natural difficulties and the reclamation of the wilderness. I would not exclude the idea, here and there, of land companies able to offer the Government sufficient financial guarantees in return for moderate concessions. But it is to be hoped that the Government both in England and in East Africa will do all it can to encourage the single settler, the man of small means who desires to make a home for himself of modest dimensions in Equatorial Africa. Native

rights must be carefully defined and respected. There is no doubt plenty of land—especially if a moderately tropical climate is not objected to—which can be occupied by the Jews of Eastern Europe; indeed, there is no part of East Africa [not already the private property of the black or white man] which is *closed* to the Jew or to any other race that will obey the laws of the land. But I should strongly deprecate the foundation of an autonomous Jewish state as an *imperium in imperio* in British East Africa, as very serious complications may arise in regard to the Negroes or the Galas; not because the autonomous state is Jewish, but because a divided government means a divided responsibility. Subject to this protest, the Jew will be as welcome in the waste places of East Africa as the Christian, and there is no doubt a moderate amount of room for both.

H. H. JOHNSTON.

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

NOTHING can be more apparent to the most casual observer than that day by day the world grows smaller, day by day the struggle more keen among the great Nations for territory more or less unoccupied which may develop into markets for home industries or, better still, afford pleasant homes for those who cannot find comfort in the old world.

I had the privilege of giving a short account at the Colonial Institute of a visit paid to this country last year, and in the discussion which followed Sir Harry Johnston is reported in the Journal of the Institute as follows:—

SIR H. H. JOHNSTON, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., said that about twenty years ago he was making preparations for his first expedition to British East Africa (Kilimanjaro). He had a very distinguished predecessor, whom he regarded as the real originator of British

East Africa, Mr. Joseph Thomson, who died all too young in 1895. His great journey from Mombasa was commenced in 1882 and finished in 1884. Mr. Thomson showed the short cut to the Victoria Nyanza, and was the first European to reach Kavirondo Bay. It was always a regret to him that he had not been able to prevail with those concerned to give Mr. Thomson's name to some place on the lake. His reports sent home to the Royal Geographical Society had attracted the attention of Mr. Gladstone, and there was another British statesman, who was then at the Foreign Office, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, who, perhaps more than most of his 'colleagues, saw the possibilities of a white man's settlement in Equatorial Africa, and who chose to select himself (Sir H. Johnston) as one agency by which this work should be commenced. He quite agreed about the want of facilities that had perhaps delayed British settlement in East Africa. Uganda must to a great extent be left to its indigenous inhabitants, but with possibilities of development, no doubt under the instruction of Europeans. It was, however, emphatically a black man's country. Crossing the Victoria Nyanza from Uganda, and coming to those magnificent tablelands (the Nandi Plateau), you really lighted upon a white man's country under the Equator, a country now almost devoid of native population owing to the ravages of war, slave trade and the like. It was a land nearly approaching the designation of an earthly paradise, a land of perpetual summer, where the heat was so tempered by the elevation of the country that the white man could work out of doors almost all through the day. Whether they could do that at Nairobi he was not able to say; perhaps the latter was really a district

where the white man would require the assistance of the black. *He should regret deeply if through want of foresight or through muddling on our part this paradise should go astray. Above all, he did not wish to see this beautiful country got hold of by syndicates.* It ought as far as possible to be parcelled out among British settlers of the right stamp. Mr. Wason had shown what we did not all realise—that these outlets for the surplus population of the United Kingdom were rapidly diminishing. Australia and New Zealand were almost closed against settlers of moderate means, and Canada was closing up, while here in East Africa there were about 18,000 square miles which without injustice to anyone we could offer for settlement. *Though he tried to be liberal minded, he confessed he was disappointed when he heard that this beautiful country which we had received as our guerdon for constructing the Uganda Railway, was offered to certain subjects of Russia, Roumania, and other countries,* undergoing maltreatment. He was aware that the Foreign Office, being at the mercy of the Treasury, experienced certain difficulties in the matter of rapid surveys, but he was happy to think that the Treasury was becoming convinced that something adequate must be done. A great part of the land was at present unmapped and unsurveyed, but he was able to state, having recently been called into consultation, that several fresh surveyors were to be despatched, and he held strongly that money could not be better spent than in producing a thoroughly careful survey, so that plots could be marked out even in London for intending emigrants.

Colonization and a spirit of adventure have made

the British Empire what it is to-day. In the country whose claims I venture to urge there is ample scope, and it is with the faint hope of attracting some little public attention to the future of the magnificent country stretching from the Indian Ocean to the sources of the Nile, a country whose possibilities make one giddy; with the object of attracting some little attention and correcting a great wrong that I venture to bring before my fellow members of the House and the public my modest contribution. Leading statesmen tell us of millions of people in Great Britain and Ireland who only just manage to exist, while side by side with their destitution great palaces of luxury are reared and fabulous amounts expended in stupid sensuality. Land, like air and water, without which we cannot live, more and more becomes the playground of the few.

It is only the outlet that America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand has afforded to the more pushing of our sons and daughters that has saved the country from a land revolution. That outlet is now blocked, and these lands are only open by the goodwill of their respective governments.

In East Africa and Uganda we have our "last land" for settlement and colonization, a heritage acquired by the heroic patriotism of individuals and by the expenditure of many millions. That the Foreign Office should hand over to speculative syndicates, whose one and only object is to make money, a vast tract of this magnificent country is deplorable; but is a matter of comparative insignificance to the offer made

to a Jewish Syndicate after Mr. Chamberlain's trip to the country, and it is no exaggeration to say that the policy of granting and disposing of an enormous area of this country to an alien autonomous settlement of foreign Jews caused the most wide-spread alarm throughout the whole country, and when it leaked out that in or near the area proposed to be handed over dwelt some of the most dangerous tribes in the country, that the North-West Frontier was an unknown land probably inhabited by wandering warriors, and that such a settlement of foreigners would certainly cause raids, punitive costly expeditions, it was no more than the duty of any Member at all conversant with the subject to take every opportunity of drawing the attention of the House of Commons to the subject, and the following questions and answers will show some of the difficulties a Member experiences in getting a clear, straightforward answer.

CHAPTER II

EXTRACTS FROM HANSARD

Feb. 22, 1904.—*Land Grants in East Africa.*

MR. CATHCART WASON (Orkney and Shetland): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he will state the names of the persons to whom a grant of five hundred square miles of land has recently been assigned in East Africa; what consideration the Government has received on account thereof; if Government officials in East Africa have made any report on the advisability of such grants; and, if so, will he lay them upon the Table of the House; will he state also what consideration has been given to native rights, and if suitable reserves will be secured out of this grant for the natives; and if any other similar offers or grants of land are now proposed to be made to syndicates.

The UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Earl Percy, Kensington, S.): A lease of 500 square miles of land, on terms approved by His Majesty's Treasury, is now being arranged with the East Africa Syndicate. The selection of the area was made last year by the local representative of the syndicate in consultation with His Majesty's Commissioner. The lease will be subject to the provisions of the East Africa Crown Lands Ordinance, 1902, which is in the Library of the House, and under



COLONEL LUGARD,

Who performed one of the most astounding marches on record and saved Uganda.

Photo by Elliott and Fry, London, W.



W. GRANT, C.M.G.,
Colonel Lugard's right hand—"A stil', strong man."
Photo by Warneuke, Glasgow.

which the rights of natives are fully reserved. Negotiations are also in progress for the lease of certain forest lands in the vicinity of the coast to firms interested in the production and working of timber and rubber.

Feb. 25, 1904.—*East Africa: Land Concession and Native Reserves.*

MR. CATHCART WASON: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he will lay upon the Table of the House all reports from local officers on the question of land concession and native reserves in East Africa.

EARL PERCY: The opinions and suggestions of local officers in regard to questions of land concession and native reserves from the basis of the Crown Lands Ordinance, 1902, and of the various rules and notices which have been issued in connection therewith. These regulations have all been published, and His Majesty's Government do not propose to lay any Papers on the subject.

Feb. 29, 1904.—*Land Concessions in East Africa.*

MR. CATHCART WASON: (Orkney and Shetland): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if, pending survey and suitable reserves being made for natives, he will assure the House that no further concessions of land in East Africa will be granted to syndicates.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Earl Percy, Kensington, S.): Every application for land must be treated on its merits and every concession granted is subject to the provisions of the Crown Lands Ordinance, 1902, which protects the

rights of natives. An extensive tract of country is being reserved as grazing ground for the Masai, and His Majesty's Commissioner has been instructed to make no further grants within this area.

March 24, 1904.—*South African and East African Mail Subsidies.*

MR. CATHCART WASON (Orkney and Shetland): To ask the Postmaster-General if he will say what subsidy is paid for the conveyance of mails to South Africa and East Africa respectively; and if he will take into consideration the expediency of calling for tenders for service from London to the Cape by the east and the west route alternately.

(Answered by LORD STANLEY): The amount of the subsidy paid to the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company for the conveyance of mails to and from South Africa is £135,000 a year; and a payment of £9,000 a year to the British India Steam Navigation Company is the only subsidy at present given for the conveyance of British mails to East Africa. The contract for the conveyance of South African mails is between the Company and the Cape Government, and as it will not run out till the year 1910, some years must elapse before such a change as that suggested can come into practical consideration.

April 26, 1904.—*East Africa: Jewish Colonial Trust.*

MR. CATHCART WASON: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs when the Papers relative to the cession of territory in East Africa to an alien race will be laid upon the Table of the House.

EARL PERCY: I have again referred to the correspondence relating to the proposed grant of land to the Jewish Colonial Trust; much of it is of a confidential character, and while the question is still undecided it would be undesirable to publish the papers.

May 17, 1904.—*Proposed Jewish Settlement in East Africa.*

MR. CATHCART WASON (Orkney and Shetland): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he will appoint an independent Commission to inquire into and report on the suggested cession of territory to an alien race in East Africa.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Earl Percy, Kensington, S.): There would in the opinion of the Secretary of State be no advantage in appointing a Commission; no cession of territory is contemplated. The conditions of the lease to the Jewish Colonial Trust are under discussion.

MR. CATHCART WASON: I shall draw attention to this matter on the Motion to adjourn for the holidays.

June 20, 1904.—*The Proposed Jewish Settlement in East Africa.*

MR. CATHCART WASON (Orkney and Shetland): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he has received any remonstrances from private individuals or resolutions from public meetings in East Africa against the lease, disposition, barter, or grant of lands in East Africa to any syndicate, association, or trust; if there are any Reports from Sir Charles Eliot on the subject; and, if so, will he inform the House of their nature.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Earl Percy, Kensington, S.): The only remonstrance addressed to the Foreign Office of the nature indicated is a telegram dated 2nd September, 1903, from the Planters and Farmers Association of East Africa stating that they protested against the proposed location of alien Jews in their midst. His Majesty's Government are in possession of the views of Sir Charles Eliot. As I have already informed the hon. Member the Secretary of State does not propose to lay any papers while the question is still under consideration.

MR. GIBSON BOWLES (Lynn Regis): Can the right hon. Gentleman say whether Sir Charles Eliot has resigned his post and is coming home?

EARL PERCY: Perhaps the hon. Gentleman will give notice of that Question.

ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Cathcart Wason, Member for Orkney and Shetland, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "The danger to the peace of East Africa arising out of the steps now being taken with the sanction of His Majesty's Government for the establishment of an Alien Settlement in East Africa on lands now in the occupation of Native populations"; but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen:—

The motion stood over, under Standing Order No. 10, till this Evening's Sitting.

A reference to the debate shows that Major Evans

Gordon described the action of Mr. Wason as preposterous and ridiculous. (*The Scotsman*, Jan. 21st.)

And again same paper:—

“The general feeling of the Government supporters was well expressed by Sir Gilbert Parker. ‘I submit,’ he said, ‘that this is not observing the rules of the game, and I will say I never heard a motion of adjournment so frivolous and so objectless.’”

And again, same paper, quoting Earl Percy:—

“He did not say in plain terms that the motion was an abuse of the forms of the House. ‘I will not,’ he remarked, ‘so describe it, but I will say I never heard a motion of urgency based on an hypothesis which has no foundation whatever.’ Earl Percy, however, made it plain further on that the representative of the Jewish Colonial Trust had already proceeded to East Africa with a view to examining the position which had been offered them and seeing whether it would suit their requirements.”

Hansard reports Sir Gilbert Parker as saying “Anyone who knew business life knew that a board of directors would not disclose all the terms of an agreement while negotiations were in progress.” I quite agree, but do not see that there is the slightest similarity between the House of Commons and a trading company, although the events of the last year or two have shaken that belief. No sane person minds either misrepresentation, sneers or criticism, silly or otherwise. I felt very keenly that a great wrong was being perpetrated, that business with a flavour of favouritism, to use a very mild expression,

was on hand, and I feel very sure that apart from party politics those whose opinion is of any value to me will agree with Sir Edward Grey that

“So far from this being an untimely motion it appeared to him to be one of the few motions brought forward while there was still time to prevent action which we might afterwards regret.”

The plain facts seem to be that the Foreign Office has grievously mismanaged the magnificent estate with which they have been entrusted, and have tried with more or less success to shuffle out of the responsibilities of settling this magnificent country with our own people. That outside of Bedlam it should have been seriously proposed to hand over 5,000 square miles of country to an alien race with powers of self-government is difficult to believe. If the offer was made out of philanthropy to show goodwill with full knowledge it could not be accepted; it was a most contemptible, unworthy proceeding.

The gift to the East Africa Syndicate which compelled Sir C. Eliot's resignation is a more practical act of benevolence to the oppressed Hebrew.

In the *Dundee Advertiser*, June 24, 1904, we read:

“Looking over in a cursory way the list of names of the shareholders in this affair, one might be pardoned for jumping to the conclusion that there was a good deal of Zionism in its composition. Among its shareholders there are, it is true, a number of English names; but those that most abound belong to that mongrel international category which John

Bull has come to associate with the children of Israel, such as Gunzberg, Mosenthal, Mankiewicz, Lowinsky, Rosendorff, Schmidt, Meyer, Beit, Meyerstein, Lowy, Cohen, and Hirsch—the names, in fact, of that ultra-patriotic section of Britons who, according to the humourist, sing ‘Rule Britannia’ through the nose. And what is this East African Syndicate which the Government has resolved to favour in the colony where so much Imperial money has been spent in recent years in the work of conquest, railway buildings, etc., and to favour before and beyond the unsyndicated individual who is willing, given opportunity, to settle in and develop a land which is said to be the only part of the central region of the African continent suitable for white colonisation.”

On June 23 the *Morning Leader* had an interview with Major Powell Cotton:—

“ ‘When I was in the Protectorate last year,’ says Major Powell Cotton, in the interview which we publish to-day, ‘much indignation was caused by the way in which wealthy syndicates were being favoured by immense concessions of land on the most nominal terms, while private individuals were refused grants sufficient for their purpose. So far as one could ascertain, this was not the policy advocated by the officials on the spot, but the result of instructions from Downing Street.’ It is against such a policy, a policy which would tie up for years hundreds of acres of the best land in one of our most promising colonies that Sir Charles has lodged his protest. For the object of the East Africa Syndicate is not colonisation at all. It is gold. As the Government has handed over the future of the Transvaal to the mineowners of the Rand, so it has sought to aid

and abet by every means in its power the attack which has apparently been engineered by this powerful syndicate upon East Africa. The East Africa Syndicate, whose monopoly Lord Lansdowne, according to Sir C. Eliot, was so anxious to establish, appears to be a coalition of the financial magnates of South and West Africa, with the late Mr. Tarbutt, the author of the famous letter denouncing the influence of white workmen in politics, as the common bond between them."

The *African Standard* in its Leading Article of June 25th says:—

"The facts with regard to the last stupendous blunder of Lord Lansdowne, so far as known, are briefly these. A certain association of capitalists, of whom Mr. Burnham was the outward and visible representative in East Africa, conceived the idea of acquiring from the Foreign Office a huge tract of land, practically for nothing, in East Africa, which might be disposed of by them at enormous profit to bonâ fide settlers. The gentlemen forming the East Africa Syndicate had not the faintest idea, either of becoming settlers themselves, or of investing capital in the development of the land. They were to be just middlemen, who would step in between the Government and the settler, and make a large profit by selling him the land, which they had got for nothing, or next to nothing. Yet to so egregious a scheme as this has Lord Lansdowne lent himself, and the judgment that will be pronounced by the people of England upon a man who has so acted is, either that he is childishy incompetent for his position, or that gross corruption, of a kind happily rare in England, has disclosed itself at the Foreign Office."



NOT SO COMFORTABLE AS IT LOOKS.

CHAPTER III

A MIS-NAMED DESERT—HOW TO GET TO VICTORIA-
LAND—ON THE WAY TO THE INTERIOR—VISIT
TO A MISSION STATION—STORIES ABOUT LIONS
—A ZEBRA FARM

It is difficult to realise that the country from the Mombasa Coast to the Congo Free State, from the great Victoria Lake to the Soudan, which has been described by distinguished missionaries, soldiers, and travellers, and which has passed within the last few years from the rule of savage tyrants, from constant tribal raids and wars, and from which the accursed trail of the slave dealer has but recently been obliterated, lies easily within the compass of a three months' holiday from London.

We decided to visit the country and try and learn something of the true facts of the case, something that would enable us to tell the people of Orkney and Shetland with some degree of accuracy what prospects lay there, and whether the heritage of which they are entitled to demand their share was being wasted and neglected.

The vast area which at present goes under the names of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates

(terms meaningless and unattractive) should be united and might be more appropriately called Victorialand. This great territory above all things wants to be in the grip of one man as Commissioner or Governor, responsible only to the Home Government; and with a Council composed of some of the very able civil servants who now carry on the business of the country, relieved of the pressure of officialism and of distant ignorance, its prosperity would advance by leaps and bounds.

Those about to visit Victorialand will receive a considerable shock to their feelings to find that the services of Messrs. Cook are unavailing, and their feelings will receive a considerable further shock that to make their passage to Mombasa, the port of Victorialand, with any degree of comfort and celerity, their choice of steamers lies between the German East Africa line from Marseilles and Naples alternately—the Massageries Maritimes from Marseilles, and the Austrian Lloyd from Trieste. It cannot be regarded as satisfactory that travellers and emigrants to a possession which is of the greatest value and on which we have spent millions of money, and the lives of many of our bravest sons, should be unable to travel there except by foreign aid unless their time is valueless, their pockets well lined, and they are indifferent to delays and discomfort. Government with a due regard to economy find it more profitable to actually take the passages of their officers by foreign vessels rather than allow them as formerly so much money for the journey. Kilindini, the harbour

of Mombasa, is one of the best on the coast of Africa and is also of great beauty, and by the German East Africa line takes about 14 days from Naples. The Company lays itself out in every way to promote the comfort and happiness of travellers, and the line is a very popular one. We landed at Kilindini and took a ghastly contrivance called a gharry up to Mombasa. The gharries have nothing to recommend them—noisy and costly, they are a great hindrance to the prosperity of Mombasa and suburbs. The roads are utterly ruined by them, and residents cannot even keep the humble donkey cart or the handy rickshaw of Japan. Mombasa is a curious place as regards climate. Although close to the Equator the days are comparatively cool, towards ten o'clock at night the heat is stifling, the mosquitos sally forth, and one thinks of the old Scotch song "Oh, why left I my hame?"

The day after we arrived, the Governor, Sir Charles Eliot (I use the term Governor as virtually that is the position; the word Commissioner is meaningless) held a Barazza, a sort of reception of the principal Mahometan chiefs, owing allegiance to the Sultan of Zanzibar. It was rather like a scene from the Arabian Nights. The swarthy chiefs clad in red and gold, armed to the teeth, sitting on the left of the Governor, and on his right the British staff, the actual rulers of the country, dressed mostly in neat suits of spotless white. After the usual complimentary speech-making, magnificently clad servants handed round glasses of sherbet, a second

service of coffee, both excellent in their way, and a third service of rose water. The chiefs then shook hands with the Governor, and some of the staff, and the few privileged guests.

The following day about noon we left for the interior by the celebrated Uganda Railway.

Sir Frederick Lugard, in his most charming "The Rise of our East African Empire," divides very fairly Victorialand, that is the two Protectorates of East Africa and Uganda, into suppositious zones.

The first zone, the coast area purely tropical from ten to forty miles.

Second zone, country beyond to foot of Central Plateau about 140 miles, gradually ascending and reaching 1,000 feet in first 100 miles.

Third zone, Great Central Plateau, varying from 5,000 to 9,000 feet.

On the south lies Kilimanjaro covered with perpetual snow, 19,700 feet. To the north, Mount Kenia, 18,320 feet.

The fourth zone includes the depression of the great Lake Victoria, and surrounding country.

The fifth zone and Nile valley, and what was Emin Pasha's Equatorial Province, extending to the Soudan.

For the first few hours from the coast the country presents but few features of interest, just palms and usual tropical vegetation.

Then the great Taru Desert is reached, only called a desert from the absence of water. There is nothing of the Sahara or the Deserts of Egypt or the



THE PRIME MINISTER OF UGANDA, APOLLO, AND THE KING.



"EVERY INCH A KING."

great alkali deserts of North America about the Taru; on the contrary it is very beautiful country, and there are considerable quantities of game about, but the early travellers often experienced a terrible time in getting through, owing to the absence of water.

At Voi, 100 miles out, we stopped and had an excellent supper, and then made ourselves as comfortable as possible for the night: warned by kind friends we had provided ourselves with rugs and warm Shetland wraps, and were very glad to put them on sometimes, in the middle of the night; as the higher altitudes are reached the nights become very cold. Almost before daybreak we were spell-bound at the windows, looking at the quantities of game grazing peacefully and hardly taking any notice of the railway train. An old resident kindly joined us, and showed and described to us the various game—antelopes in considerable variety, the most plentiful being the Congoni, Wildebeests, Hartebeests—gazelles, known as Thomson and Grant's—large herds of zebra—a good many ostrich, Golden Crested Cranes, Lesser Bustards, Vultures, Jackals, and we were also fortunate in getting within a short distance of a wild boar, locally known as the Wart Hog, and perhaps the one animal in the world quite devoid of fear. Nairobi, the capital of the Protectorate, was reached in time for a late breakfast or early lunch.

Nairobi is a most charming spot, over 5,000 feet above the sea, and although perhaps for a few hours

in the middle of the day the strength of the sun is considerable the mornings and evenings cannot be surpassed, and few sensations can be more agreeable than a sharp ride before breakfast or in the afternoon. Leaving Nairobi pretty early, after a pleasant drive of two hours, the Government Station, Giborette, was reached, where breakfast was kindly provided by the officer in charge. We passed through much of the Kikuyu and Masai country, and it was gratifying to know that the Government had done much towards providing Reserves for natives in this district, and much remains to be done if the disgrace and expense of native risings are to be prevented. We visited a Kikuyu chief, who presented us with a fat sheep and many expressions of goodwill. Their huts are fairly large and comfortable, circular, with a fire in the centre—bedsteads somewhat of the Indian style were ranged round the wall furthest from the fire, and round the fire were quite a number of sheep and lambs, apparently enjoying the warmth and shade. After breakfast, Mr. Paterson, formerly of the Scotch Mission under Dr. Scott, acted as guide, and smart riding ponies soon took us to the Mission Station, where we were cordially welcomed by Dr. Scott, a former resident of Shetland, and much interested in hearing news from there. Dr. Scott is going in heavily for potato cultivation. Potatoes grow in this district to perfection, but the policy of growing them on a large scale is doubtful, as the local market is a mere nothing, and the South African market very risky. Native labour at present is good, plentiful and

cheap, and settlers must be dependent on it for a long time; it seems a pity to adopt a course which by raising the price of native labour must very seriously injure the prospects of the poor and struggling settler. We then called on a settler, a sturdy Scot from Kirkcudbrightshire, and received a most hearty welcome, and enjoyed a cup of tea, smoke, and rest very much. Mr. McQueen has a most beautiful homestead on the Begathi river, a comfortable house and outbuildings, and it would be hard to find anywhere a more thoroughly happy, contented group than Mr. and Mrs. McQueen and their sturdy little ones. Their looks spoke volumes for the health of the country, and their farm volumes for the capabilities of the country. We next visited Mr. Paterson's own farm, which he is just starting, and he has several acres already cleared and started, and returning to Nairobi by another route, we passed a large herd of baboons quite close, and rather alarming they looked; we were told they do a good deal of damage to settlers' crops.

Next morning we rode out in another direction and visited the farm of Doctor Atkinson about five miles distant, riding through most beautiful fertile country. Doctor Atkinson is much to be congratulated on the brilliant success of his experiment in mating the native cows with an imported shorthorn bull; the result is everything that could be wished; but as milk in this country is far more important than meat and size, it would be well worth experimenting with a good, ordinary Ayrshire bull, it cannot be too strongly

impressed upon those who propose settling the folly of throwing money away on high grade show stock.

The Uganda Railway is a great work, estimated by Major Macdonald to cost $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions of money, but has largely exceeded that amount. Still, the great fact is there—the railway is made and well made, and is of the greatest importance not only to British interests but to civilisation and suppression of the slave trade.

Lion story

Residents here tell appalling stories of the lions that were the terror of Indians and Swahilis during the construction of the line to Nairobi. Mrs. Clive Gray of the East Africa and Uganda Mail tells us of the two Isabo lions that killed and ate 28 Indians, and nearly 60 Swahilis, and for long delayed the construction of the line. Another gentleman vouches for the truth of the following:—A sportsman went out to shoot lions, and amongst other articles provided himself with a bottle of whisky which he carried in his tail coat pocket. Whilst he was hunting one lion, another lion was hunting him and suddenly sprang on him, fortunately seizing him by the pocket containing the whisky. The mixture of glass and whisky made the lion wonder what sort of sharp beast he had got hold of, and not finding the mixture to his liking he left the hunter and seized and carried off the nearest black man.

Lion story

The following telegram was actually sent to the manager of the railway by an Indian station master:—"Lion roaring round station. Police at time of roaring not so brave, what can do?" A very dreadful

incident occurred within the last year or two. The Superintendent of the Police, Mr. C. H. Ryell, in company with two other gentlemen heard of a lion in the vicinity of a station not far from Nairobi, and they had their carriage left on a siding, determining to watch all night, if necessary, for the lion. Mr. Ryell himself decided to take the first watch, and the account of the hideous nightmare that followed is necessarily somewhat confused, whether the lion entered by the window and carried off Mr. Ryell the same way, or whether the popular account is true that the lion entered by the door and carried Mr. Ryell off through the window, or what quite happened can never be known, but certain it is, the lion did seize Mr. Ryell and carry him off to the jungle, and his body was not discovered for some hours after.

Lions are still quite plentiful in this district. We left a large party that travelled with us at the Athi River, but 26 miles from Nairobi, and the next news we had was that one of the party had shot four lions and the other three.

Rhinoceros are to be met with here in addition to the other varieties of game already enumerated, and if anyone wishes to know of the dangers attending their pursuit, a true narrative of thrilling adventure is given in the "Wide World" of last year by Mr. Earlwood, whose friends will all be glad to know that although minus his right arm, his health is excellent, and it is reported that one-armed as he is, he is already an expert shot.

Leaving what is said to be a large and fertile province on the right, the Escarpment is soon reached, and a rapid descent made into the Rift Valley and the beautiful Province of Naivasha, where we were most kindly entertained for the night by Mr. Gilkinson, Magistrate or Collector in charge of the important centre. In the morning we started off to visit the Agricultural and Zebra farm some five miles up the Morendat River, calling first at the Agricultural Farm in charge of Mr. Hopton, who was most hospitable and courteous. The criticisms that at once occurred to us were first that the farm was absurdly small for a highly paid staff, that although the Morendat River was close by, no effort was made or even seriously talked of to bring water to the stock. An expenditure of £200 at the outside, would not only provide all the stock with water, and water for domestic purposes, but also plenty for a considerable sized garden. The sheep numbered nearly fifty at that time (since then some Merinos have been imported at a very great cost from the Cape) about half pure bred Lincolns of a high class, and the others Welsh, neither in any way suitable for the country, and it is difficult to imagine the object in bringing them out. The sheep of the country are really good, well framed, and naturally acclimatised, somewhat of the Merino type, but practically devoid of wool. Crossed with ordinary Spanish Merinos and rams which could be obtained from Spain, shipped at Marseilles and landed at Mombasa at far less cost than from Great Britain and Australia, a very few

generations would bring the local sheep up into good wool-producing animals. Crossing the local sheep with heavy English sheep such as the Lincoln and Romney, the result must in the first place be a very heavy death rate at lambing time, and next the production of an inferior class of wool. The question of improving the carcass and exporting good mutton and lamb isn't within the bounds of practical farming at present.

The imported cattle, Shorthorns and Herefords looked very well, but again carcass isn't wanted and milk producing animals of Ayrshire or Galloway would be far less expensive, hardier, and probably far more valuable to the country. Some Berkshire pigs looked everything that could be desired. Passing on to the Zebra Farm a very costly experiment undertaken by the Foreign Office, we were unfortunate in finding Mr. Stordy the manager and veterinary surgeon to both Protectorates, absent on leave, but he had most kindly placed his house at our disposal, and the acting manager, Mr. Pfeffer, did everything possible. The Zebra Farm was started last year. In February a most successful drive was made under the leadership of Mr. Stordy, the result being that some ninety zebras were successfully driven into a large enclosure, and measures taken for breaking them in. Within a year afterwards four of the captives were shipped to Bombay, but, owing we imagine to being penned into narrow limits, by far the greater portion of the rest were dead; we saw something like twenty or less, some of which were

evidently also very near the end, and might as well have been let loose to take their chance of life. Speedy death was a certainty as they were. Zebras have of course the great merit of being thoroughly acclimatised, and probably able to resist the ravages of the dreaded Tsetse Fly, and the experiment may be well worth trying, but it is a certainty it cannot succeed under existing conditions. A large area could be fenced in close by with very little trouble, nearly 2000 acres where female zebras could run comparatively wild and the result of a cross between them and the very excellent Arabian stallion now at the farm, just the very class of horse wanted, plenty of bone, plenty of blood, and not too big, might result in a valuable class of stock. It is exceedingly unlikely that except in a very few cases, the zebra will breed in captivity, and cannot thrive unless allowed ample room to obtain their own food.



LOCAL PUNISHMENT. UGANDA STOCKS.



VICTIMS OF THE LATE KING.

CHAPTER IV

THE MASAI TRIBE—A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY—SLEEP-
ING SICKNESS—NATIVE COSTUMES AND CUS-
TOMS—LAKE VICTORIA—VISITING A NATIVE
KING—KAMPALA AND ITS MISSION STATIONS—
THE SOURCE OF THE NILE—THE RIPON FALLS.

ON Christmas Day we rode and walked up to the hills above the plain and were kindly entertained to lunch by Mr. Hobley. Cold guinea fowl and antelope were alike excellent and novel fare to us. After we sat for some time watching the floating islands on the Lake Naivasha, and making imaginary bets upon which would first pass a certain point, a stroll through the forest and a hunt after orchids ended a most enjoyable picnic, and after tea we walked down to the garden belonging to the Zebra Farm, and it was a revelation of fertility, one native at a few rupees a month not only did all the work but carried water for his plants a considerable distance. We remained here nearly a week and had plenty of opportunity of studying the country and the Masai who are the very celebrated tribe of this Protectorate. They present difficulties in the way of settlement, which, however, with patience, and kindness will soon be got over. The

Masai
principal difficulty is that they have no fixed home. Their kraals are temporary, easily constructed erections, often as much as three hundred yards round. The men, women, and children live in divisions near the outside wall, and the cattle and sheep are carefully placed in the centre, for fear of jackals and hyenas which abound here. At daybreak the stock are let out in charge of herdsmen and very carefully watched and tended all day, taken to water and the most plentiful grass. The Masai are very magnificent specimens of humanity, and have a strong disinclination to do any other work than shepherding, cattle-rearing, etc., soldiering and police work, in fact they possess many characteristics that were more than common in our own country not many generations back. They move about their flocks and herds following the pasture up to the mountains in dry seasons, down to the plains again when the grass is freshened up. They have been very friendly to our administration, and indeed had they been otherwise, our difficulties would have been increased a thousandfold, both in the construction and maintenance of the railway, and also in the matter of the mutiny among the Soudanese. The other less warlike tribes have suffered very considerably at their hands at one time and another, but lately they have been very peaceful and indeed patient. An European traveller actually while we were in the district, came to their camp and wished to buy some sheep. They refused to sell; they dislike very much parting with their stock at any price. The traveller lost his

temper and shot several out of revenge and wantonness. Of course the Masai could have swallowed the traveller and his porters at a mouthful, but they simply went to the nearest magistrate, and the offender will be duly punished and full reparation exacted. All the work that is done, the building of the kraals, Zeribas, the milking of the cows, is done by the women, who are generally adorned with magnificent leggings of iron galvanised wire extending from close below the knee to the ankle. We thought of the Lady of Fashion who was complaining of some discomfort, possibly stays and boots too tight, and the sympathy accorded her by the Frenchman, "Mais, madame, il faut souffrir pour tere belle." Men and women and children all look exceedingly well nourished, and they live almost exclusively upon meat, milk, and blood. They do not like either selling or killing their animals. They puncture the neck with some force by shooting an arrow into the flesh, and after drawing off a certain amount of blood, tie up the wound. The blood is mixed with milk and cooked, and must be extremely nourishing. When a cattle beast is killed it is killed in the ordinary way, but never bled, as they prefer the blood mingling through the meat. Sheep and goats are killed by the hand being pressed over the mouth and nostrils.

A curious form of circumcision is practised on both boys and girls. Maize, potatoes, mtana, a kind of millet from which flour is made, and vegetables grow to profusion in their country, and it is only reasonable to expect that in a very short time they will acquire

a taste for such food and the attractions of a more settled life. Our next halt on the railway was at Londiani station to visit the fertile country between there and the beautiful Eldoma Ravine. We were kindly provided with a tent, tent bedsteads and Swahili cook, blacker than the blackest coal, and had nothing to provide for ourselves but food and blankets. Going up to the Ravine we suffered very much from the cold at night. Although we put on all the clothes possible, we shivered sleepless with the cold. One night the ice was $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick under our tent, and over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick outside. At the Ravine we were able to lay in a further stock of blankets, and our return journey was performed in comfort.

The country lying between Londiani and the Ravine is very beautiful, interspersed with several brooks, glades, forests, and open pasture. The grass generally is of a rough, poor quality of common rush, couch or quick grass, and not much good for sheep or cattle; but the country is like the greater portion of the land 100 miles from the coast, admirably suited for close settlement. The Athi Plains perhaps are an exception, but even there it is more than probable that plentiful supply of Artesian water will before long be supplied, and are certainly more fertile than the great wheat-growing plains of South Australia. The Ravine itself is a most important Station, and owes much to the care of Mr. Martin, now of Entebe, who has aptly christened his pretty little daughter Eldoma after the River near the Fort. We are now many thousand feet above the sea, and close under the



BISHOP TUCKER.
The right man in the right place.

Equator, yet fires at night are most grateful. Judging from the crops we saw at the Station, the country is most fertile, and a great blunder will be made if it is given away in great grazing areas. Between the Ravine and the Great Lake it is all of a very similar quality, but of course as one descends rapidly the climate became less and less suited for Europeans. A foolish settlement of Indians was made in this district a short time ago and a very considerable sum of money wasted. There are plenty of natives in the country who are deserving of the first consideration at our hands, and there is marked hostility between the Indians and the natives.

We arrived at Kisuma early in the evening, and at once went on board the s.s. Winifred, where we were made most welcome and comfortable, and as the steamer was not starting till late next day Mr. McLellan kindly arranged to come early in the morning to show us as much of the country as possible. We were early on our mules but the natives, the Kavirondo tribe, were still earlier, and it was very interesting to watch them fishing, buying and selling at the two large butchers' shops, one for cattle and one for small stock. An hour or so and Mr. McLellan's house was reached, and after breakfast, having secured the pleasure of Doctor Mann's company, we rode a few miles further to the large, well-equipped hospital which has been provided for the sufferers from the terrible disease of "sleeping sickness." We saw them in all stages from those just hardly living to some who had been some months in

the hospital and looked perfectly well and strong. This disease has been known for a long time on the West Coast and has but recently appeared in the Islands and country surrounding the Great Lake. No accurate statistics can be furnished of those who have succumbed to the disease, but populous flourishing islands have practically lost the greater portion of the people. Doctors shake their heads over the disease as their skill is powerless to cure or check it. On the other hand the Missionaries think that the worst is over. In addition to the admirable hospital at Kisumu, the Government have established a splendid laboratory at Entebbe under the control of Doctor Ross, bacteriologist, and Captain Doctor Greig of the Indian Medical Service, and these gentlemen spend their days in research. A wretched fly very like a Scotch cleg gets the blame of spreading the disease, and carrying the parasite from the sick to the strong, and what a ruinous beast it is! A single drop of blood magnified 1200 times showed large snake-like beasts nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ an inch long, swimming about in the fluid, and every now and again making a savage attack on the blood corpuscles. Science will no doubt discover some method of checking their ravages, and possibly even now deaths are put down generally to sleeping sickness which may have arisen from other causes. As long as this hideous beast the Trypanosoma only preys on the blood, the system can hold out against it, but by-and-by he attacks the spinal fluid and then death is certain.

Returning from the hospital we passed through a

very populous country and literally crowds of native ladies going to the bazaar or market place with their little articles of produce, firewood, sugar cane, millet, grain, and flour, native pipes and tobacco. Their costume is their own and peculiar, a slight belt round the waist with a bunch of fibre or leaves according to their time in the form of a tail hanging behind. The unmarried ladies wear nothing nor do the men. Quail traps are found here, long poles are set in the ground on which are attached small baskets, each provided with a quail as a decoy ; round the pole at the foot are numerous little snares so that when the quails are attracted by the decoy they are caught like rabbits in the snares. A curious custom exists here connected with the naming of children. When a child is born the medicine man is called in and after consultation with the parents a name is provided. A quail is then taken and suspended by a string through a flap of skin to the doorpost. If it is dead in the morning a fresh name must be provided ; if alive the poor quail is thrown alive on the embers and after being partially roasted is devoured by the fond parents and a few favoured relations.

Starting in the afternoon we called at the Island of Rusinga, also inhabited by the Kavirondo. Stopping there all night we left early next morning and stopped a few minutes at the fertile Isle of Bugaia (our entrance here on the return journey was very unpleasant, as we stopped at night and were overwhelmed with myriads of mosquitoes, flies of all sorts and noxious creatures and flying and creeping

things). Soon after we passed the beautiful, once populous, Island of Bavumu, where the ravages of the Sleeping Sickness have reduced the population literally by thousands. Towards evening we landed at Entebe and were met by Dr. Moffat and found fairly comfortable quarters in a hotel recently started by an enterprising Italian gentleman, Signor Berti.

Fish
The Lake Victoria is said to be teeming with fish, and although we heard them during the night constantly jumping, presumably for sport, it is said that they never have been known to take a fly. The natives fish generally with two rods, and many of the residents employ their own fishermen. A difficulty arises that when they catch one fish they consider the day's work is over; as their pay is only about four shillings a month and keep themselves, perhaps this is not unreasonable.

We kept a good watch for the dreaded "Lukwata," an animal of which the natives are in great fear. What it is no one can exactly say. A semi-fabulous animal, its existence is vouched for by at least one distinguished Government official who made its acquaintance when crossing the Lake in a small steam launch. The natives cannot give any accurate description as they generally lose their consciousness when it appears and selects a victim from a canoe, but I have been assured by testimony it is impossible to disbelieve that it appears with head and neck at least ten feet above the level of the lake. Sea serpent, sea horse, or sea cow, there is certainly a strange beast



ON THE MORENDAT RIVER.



A PLEASANT TIME.

which no one as yet has made a serious effort to capture. Entebe is most beautifully situated and anything more lovely than the view from our window on to the lake and island would be hard to imagine.

There are between fifty and sixty European residents, and we had the pleasure of meeting them all under the hospitable roof of Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson, to see the old year out and the new year in, but when one says that Entebe is a most lovely place, and that possibly from a military point of view its selection as a town can be justified, everything is said in its favour that can be said. It is situate too near the lake to be healthy, the climate is most relaxing. Thunder storms are of constant occurrence, and it is a most inconvenient centre of business and probably the attempt to force it on as the commercial capital of Uganda must result in disaster and loss. The most foolish policy is pursued as regards water. A perfect supply of pure water could be had from the lake at a very trifling cost. Instead of that the Foreign Office has literally frittered away thousands of pounds in building and other improvements, forgetting that without water a town can be neither moderately healthy nor moderately clean. It is indeed a piteous sight to see the waste of labour and energy that is now employed at Entebe in the matter of water, hundreds of natives in endless streams with gourds, buckets and massive tins each day, bringing a very insufficient supply of the dirtiest and most polluted water in the lake for the use of the inhabitants, a ten horse power engine and a trifle of

iron piping would do ten times the work, supply pure water at far less than the present cost, and the labour now wasted could be utilised in reproductive labour.

Leaving Entebe after breakfast by the steam launch, a few hours' steam through the beautiful islands took us to Port Manyungo, distant some seven miles from Kampala, the native capital, and the natural commercial capital of the country.* Difficulties met us here in getting a conveyance for the lady, but after some time a very rickety chair was procured and poles lashed to it, and Kampala was reached late in the evening. Next morning we paid our respects to the King, a bright, intelligent-looking little chap of about seven years of age, and to the Katikiro or Prime Minister, and were invited to attend a meeting of the Local Parliament the next morning at 9 a.m. Punctually we were there and received handsomely by the King's band. The present Parliament house seems about 50 feet by 40. At the further end from the door the little king was seated on his throne which was placed on a magnificent leopard skin rug. In the days of his savage father and grandfather a cruel death awaited anyone who inadvertently trod on the tail or any portion of this skin. We sat to the right of the King. Next us the chief regent and Prime Minister Apollo with the regent Mugwany and two other great chiefs. On the left Zacherie the Kisingiri and also regent with several great chiefs on his left. A considerable number of

*I am more than glad to see my opinion strongly justified by the Report of Major Pringle, R.E.—See Appendix IV.

lesser chiefs on either side. A large open space extended from the throne to the entrance. From time to time Plaintiffs came forward remaining at a very respectful distance from the King and told their story. Defendants told theirs, the Chiefs put searching questions, and case after case was doubtless justly and fairly dealt with.

In the afternoon the King and Prime Minister came to afternoon tea with us, and we presented the King with a small model of a Man-of-War propelled by clockwork. Not far from his palace an artificial lake has been constructed where crocodiles at one time were kept by Mtesa and Mwanga, the grandfather and father of the present King, and which was the scene of many a cruel death. From the scene of savage torture to a gentle child's playground is the marvellous transition of the last few years.

Next day we called on Bishop Tucker of the English Church Union at Namarenby, the White Fathers at Rubaya, the French Catholic Mission, and the English Catholic Mission at Nasembia, and were most cordially welcomed by all. The last time we had the pleasure of meeting with Bishop Tucker was on a voyage from London to Aden, and we recalled to him and well we remembered his most interesting lecture on Uganda slavery, and the extreme necessity for the construction of the railway. At that time, but a few years ago, the voyage from Uganda to England and back took a long twelve months; now it can be done in six weeks. Kampala is certainly well supplied with Mission Societies, and the three large

Kampala Hills

Cathedrals are each capable of holding at least 3,000 persons. The Cathedrals at Namarenby and Rubaya are built handsomely of sun-dried brick, and beautifully decorated with native reed work; and at Nasembia the Cathedral is a beautiful specimen of native architecture and work. In connection with the three Cathedrals are schools, hospitals, dispensaries, to which hundreds of natives congregate daily. Kampala is said to be built on seven hills, like ancient Rome. Three of the finest of these hills are occupied by the Missions Nasembia, Rubaya, and Namarenby, and the other four are Kampala, celebrated as Lugard's fort and the official residence, Nakasern the military Station, Mengo, the King's capital, and Kesuti, the tomb of Mtesa, the grandfather of the present King. Bishop Tucker kindly escorted us there, and a more capable, interesting companion it would be impossible to find. It seems that although Mtesa has been dead for several years his kingly state and surroundings is still kept up, and his officers of state still bear their rank and live round his palace and tomb. The tomb itself is a gigantic cone, and does not present any features of interest. Kampala is the native capital, and must be the commercial capital; whatever efforts are made to push Entebe can only be so much money wasted. Trade must find its natural channels, and the shops and bazaars of Kampala as compared with Entebe show plainly the direction of trade and commerce. But Kampala is certainly suffering much from the official favouritism shown to Entebe, and still worse from official neglect. A malarial unhealthy

swamp separates the hills on the side of the Missions from the Military hill of Nakasern, and every morning during our stay at Nakasern, a thick miasmatic mist lay in the valley for hours. In the days of the King's father a canal was dug and kept clear right through, and very soon the swamp would have been dried up. We heard also that a concession had been granted to some Indian traders to grow rice in this valley, and of course perpetuate the swamp right in the centre of the town, but this we put down to malicious rumour. The bridges between Nakasern and Nasembia are quite unsafe except for foot passengers, and even at the military fort, which should be kept up in some degree of efficacy, the only gun is an old worn-out maxim brought into the country years ago by Stanley and as useless for offence or defence as Mons Meg. A comparatively trifling expense of labour would bring Kampala within easy distance of the Great Lake. In the days of the King's father a canal was cut from the Lake to within two miles of the town, which would be of great value to the commerce of the country. We went up it a short distance in the steam launch, but it is nearly choked up, and the entrance was only found with some difficulty.

We also received a cordial invitation from the Regent Zacharie to lunch, but unfortunately were unable to accept it, but we called, and he showed us over the new house which he is having built in the European style.

A visit to Jinga to the celebrated Falls, and the source of the Nile, terminated a most enjoyable visit

Jinja
to this part of the country. The Falls are not high, perhaps twenty feet, but of considerable width; we visited both sides, and the view from the Usoga side is certainly the best. A pool on this side formed by backwater is literally swarming with fish, some of great size. Numbers get washed over the Falls and are all the time making frantic, but impossible, efforts to get back. Cormorants, crocodiles, and otters have a grand time here. A friend kindly gave us a string of crocodile eggs, which are about as big as those of a goose, and as a result, the next night I had a hideous nightmare that I was set down to eat one, and the revolting imaginary taste makes me sick still to think of it. Hippopotami also abound round the lake and are protected by the Government for some absurd reason, as not only are they a great danger to native canoes but they destroy the native gardens and plantations; what they do not eat they trample, roll on, and ruin.

The native bark cloth is really beautiful stuff and a large piece 7 feet square can be had for about eightpence. It would make very handsome curtains, or possibly even the skirt portion of a lady's costume if the fashion were set. It is warm and wears well unless exposed to rain. It certainly will not wash.

Although the country surrounding the lakes is beautiful and fertile it cannot be described as suitable for British farmers. Food grows in great profusion and abundance. Banana flour, which is said to be used extensively in America as an article of invalid food, might be grown in any quantity. The rubber

wine can be grown anywhere at a very trifling cost. Arrowroot in any quantity. The coffee is of excellent quality, and when the natives get out of the way of boiling it—they use coffee as we do ordinary beans, boil and eat—an admirable sample can be put on the market. A great trade has been done in goat skins and some say it shows no sign of diminution; we certainly saw great quantities in the Bazaar at Kampala. Cotton is indigenous, but of an inferior quality. Mr. Borup of the Church Missionary Society, has just imported nearly three tons of the best seed, and the result must be satisfactory. The Ripon Falls would supply horse power enough to run any amount of machinery, enough electricity to supply the two steamers now on the Lake and dozens more. There is sugar cane, Mtana, a kind of grain, and a great variety of other products. Nature has lavished her gifts in this region with no niggard hand, and away to the North-east on the slopes of Mount Elgon, there is a beautiful climate where thousands of British settlers might live in great comfort and under equally favourable conditions as their fellows in Australia or New Zealand. A company has been formed to develop the resources of Uganda, the undermentioned gentlemen completing a powerful Board: Robert Barbour, of Bolesworth Castle, Chester, Esquire; Alfred Fowell Buxton, of 50, Cornhill, E.C., Esquire; Thomas Fowell Victor Buxton, of Woodredon, Waltham Abbey, Esquire; Samuel Henry Gladstone, of Darley Ash, Bovingdon, Herts, Esquire; Henry Edward Millar, of 110, Fenchurch Street, E.C.,

Esquire (Managing Director of Messrs. William Millar and Co., Ltd.) As a field for emigration, it is capable of development to an extent which almost makes one giddy—gold and diamond mines are not wanted, and will only enhance the difficulties of settlement. It is not too much to say that the greater portion of the country possesses what is better than the best gold mine, a fertile soil and a perfect climate.



ENTRANCE TO THE KING'S PALACE.



VERY IMPORTANT PERSONAGES.

CHAPTER V

THE SOUDANESE MUTINY—PROTECTORATES IN EAST AFRICA—SETTLEMENT OF LAND—A CHAOTIC MUDDLE.

I GIVE herewith a short account of the mutiny which broke out in September, 1897, which not only retarded very much the progress of the country, but cost a very large sum of money and valuable lives, but redounded very little to our credit. While Captain, now Brigadier-General Sir Frederick Lugard was in the service of the East Africa Company at Uganda, rumours were constantly coming to his ears that a large force of Soudanese were looting, ravaging, and laying waste the country to the west, and as soon as possible he started off with Mr. Grant, Mr. de Winton, and a small force to endeavour to bring them to reason, leaving Captain Williams in charge of Uganda proper. How he succeeded in face of the greatest difficulties and practically without any cost in dissipating this force consisting of over 9,000 persons can best be read in his own charming work.

By good treatment, kindness, and firmness, he enlisted many of them in the service of the company, who were afterwards taken over by the British

Government. The Soudanese make excellent soldiers, but they have certain peculiarities that require careful study and treatment. They are very attached to their wives, and cannot bear being absent very long at a time from them. They alleged that faith was broken with them, that their pay was in arrears, that they had been forced to undertake long marches without their wives, and as they considered no attention was paid to their grievances a number of them marched from the Ravine Station to Njemps which had been fixed on as their meeting place or rallying point, some returned to the Ravine Station, but they were beaten off by a small force under Captain Kirkpatrick. Marching west the mutineers arrived at Nandi, where they made Captain Bagenal a prisoner, looted the Station, and marched on to Mumias. Here Mr. Tomkins, the acting Sub-Commissioner at Kampala, ably assisted by Mr. Mayes of the firm of Messrs. Smith, Mackenzie, and Co., succeeded in keeping them at bay. Still marching westward they arrived in Luba's country, where Bishop Harrington had been murdered a few years previously by the order of King Mwanga. There they were more successful, seizing the fort of Bukelaba, and making Major Thruston, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Scott prisoners. Possibly at this time negotiation might have ended the mutiny and saved a great expenditure of money, as troops had to be brought from India, and there being no railway it took at least three months to get them from the coast to the scene of action. Certainly negotiation

might have saved the lives of these three gallant sons of Britain. The mutineers were given to understand that no terms whatever would be given, nothing short of unconditional surrender, and in order, it is said, to effectually burn their boats and prevent any of their party making terms for themselves, Major Thruston and Messrs. Wilson and Scott were killed. It is one of those curious stories of blundering stupidity that seem almost incredible.

A cairn is put up at Luba to mark the spot where they fell. Their remains lie under the shelter of the Cathedral at Namarenby along with others distinguished in the history of the country—Bishop Harrington, Mr. de Winton, and Mr. Pilkington. Anything more inappropriate than the hideous mounds of cement that disfigure the surroundings of the Cathedral could hardly be imagined. Over the remains of Bishop Harrington and the others are erected small crosses giving their names, but there is nothing to show where Major Thruston and Messrs. Scott and Wilson lie, and in another year or two if their friends seek to pay respects to their resting places there will be no one to point them out. Surely the Government should at least mark their resting places.

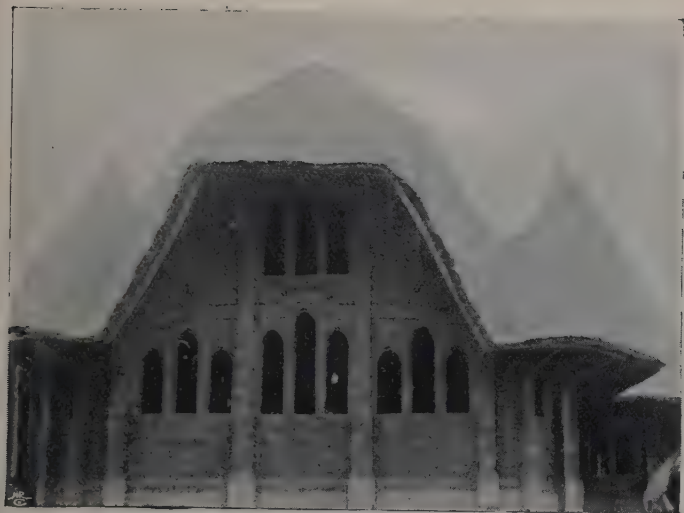
The policy of establishing Protectorates over East Africa and Uganda has in the past been much criticised in a hostile spirit, and our expenditure of millions regarded as money wasted. Whatever risks we ran in the early days, few would study the **many works**, who would converse with the early

pioneers of the country, would deny that our advent has been up to the present an unmixed benefit to the natives. Even to the present day among some of the tribes one sees the cringing beseeching attitude of those whose blood is still impregnated with the cruelty and slavery of the past generation. For the natives our rule has meant peace and prosperity, freedom from slavery, from Arab lust and rapine and the cruel tyranny of their own chiefs. Quoting a few passages from the most interesting work by Sir Harry Johnston:—

“The miseries endured by the slaves on their way to the Coast have scarcely if at all been exaggerated by travellers like Livingstone. Mtoyi, the Arab raider, who lost his life in the final struggle at the north end of Lake Nyasa must have been responsible in his time for the death of something like 10,000 negroes of the surrounding Waikonda tribes. The Arab often killed for the mere lust and joy of killing, the black slaves and soldiers sharing his ferocity. Captive women were needlessly murdered in cold blood. Their children were torn from them and thrown into the camp fires, or spiked on spears. A large number of boys were mutilated to provide eunuchs for Mohammedan harems. Near Lake Mweru at the present you will see a large proportion of the population without hands or ears.”

“Five per cent. of the negro population of these countries was killed very year by the poison ordeal.”

“It has been the same in Uganda. If one reads the works of Speke, of Stanley, of the Rev. W. P. Ash, of Lugard and Colville, one realises what a bloody country was the kingdom of Uganda before



THE CATHEDRAL AT NAMARENBY.



SOURCE OF THE NILE AT THE RIPON FALLS.

it came under British control. The flow of human blood must have been such a common sight as to render the Baganda singularly callous. Speke gives a pathetic account of Malesa's wives being hurried off to a cruel execution for the most trivial reasons, raising their wailing cries of 'O, my Lord,' and 'O, my Master,' as they passed him on their way."

The worship of the spirits in Uganda and Basoga involved constant human sacrifice. At the accession of a new chief disgusting mutilations take place of young men and virgins.

But the warfare that took place—raids from Uganda into Toro and Ankole, to snatch cattle and seize women, then again further east white tribes wiped out of existence—this has occurred again and again. The population of parts of Navirondo on the slopes of Mount Elgon, of the Nyardo Valley, and of much of the Nandi Plateau, has been absolutely extinguished—men, women, and children being slain, and the remnant starving to death in the bush.

To Sir William MacKinnon more than to any other individual belongs the glory and credit of having rescued this great country, larger by far than Great Britain, capable of carrying in the not far distant future millions of strong, white, free people, from the curse of slavery and the rule of witchcraft, cruelty and lust. The railway practically gives the Empire another road to India, and very materially strengthens our lines of communication.

Although it is fervently to be hoped that the two Protectorates of Uganda and East Africa may be

united under one strong administration, there is very considerable difference between them. Uganda, except in certain favoured spots, is not suited for close settlement by Europeans, although possibly the richest food-producing country in the world. What is known as East Africa is very different, and is emphatically a country, except the coast belt, for close settlement. The question of natives and native reserves is a very pressing one at the present moment. The Masai are very intelligent, and make first-class soldiers and policemen. The Kikuyu and other tribes are both intelligent and industrious. Settlers are coming into the country, some with a view to settle, others, it is feared, to acquire large tracts and exploit for their own benefit, and with little regard for the natives and for prosperous settlement. The Administration has practically made no reserves except near Nairobi, but much more remains to be done in that direction. I am glad to say that since writing this sentence, that last week Government announced a large reserve had been made for the Masai.

The Survey Department is hopelessly in arrears and undermanned. Speculators are given large tracts of unsurveyed country for a mere trifle. This stretch of country is emphatically suitable for small holdings; 100 acres would keep a settler in comfort, always provided that he has enough capital to tide over the first few years, and this is absolutely essential; it is nothing short of cruelty and madness to allow British subjects to enter the country unless

they can show that they can manage the first two or three years. There is absolutely no employment at present for white men and women, the natives only ask three rupees and sometimes less, four shillings a month, and keep themselves out of that and work nine hours a day.

No one can cultivate a large block, and yet blocks of 2,000 acres have been given away for a shilling or two an acre, and leases for 90 years of as much as five hundred square miles practically freehold, which the owners will hold until without any exertion on their part they will reap a handsome profit unless the Government steps in and endeavours to repair some of the mischief they have already done. Land speculators should receive fair warning that all tracts of land exceeding for the present 640 acres or worth over 500 r. will be subject in the near future to a graduated land tax, and still more important it is at the moment for the Government to insist upon suitable reserves being made in every block of land over a certain area for natives.

Under present conditions such a case as the following might arise. Two persons, A and B, each take a block of 1,000 acres which for this country is a very large block. Native kraals and cultivations are on both blocks. A wishes to get rid of the natives on his land, gets hold of a few of the principal chiefs, plies them with drink, bribes them by presents, payment and promises for the future, to go to the Collector, the Government Officer, and say they want to leave. The Collector on the possibly corrupt

evidence before him and upon which he has neither time nor opportunity to form an opinion, yields to the expressed wishes of the natives brought about by the wiles of A, and a large body of natives leave their homes and cultivation and seek land elsewhere. B, acting honestly, leaves his natives alone and sees his neighbour, A, reaping the profit of his own evildoing and the foolishness of the land regulations. From what one could hear and see, the Collectors or Magistrates of the country are gentlemen in every sense of the word imbued with a thorough spirit of justice and a keen desire to promote the prosperity of their districts, they must know the difficulties that must confront the administration, if the natives are driven off the land. A and B having applied each for a grant of 1,000 acres would have nothing whatever to complain of if the Government reserved 200 acres, or 20 per cent. out of each block, for of course they would only pay for what they got. The natives would be assured of sufficient land, and we must remember that all their interests are concentrated in land, and if in the course of years it was found the land was not necessary for native purposes, the Government would have an estate probably worth ten times as much as they received for the original grant. Without in the least degree reflecting upon any official from the Governor downwards, it isn't too much to say that the whole land system is a chaotic muddle. One is told of as much as 100,000 acres being granted for 99 years, a practical freehold to one individual, land that could well have



A VICTIM OF CIVILISATION ON THE MORENDAT RIVER.



MASAI TRAVELLING.

been granted to not one but a hundred or more British families. Just as we left the news came that the Foreign Office had granted a speculative syndicate as much as 500 square miles of the pick of the land in the Province of Naivasha. What is plain to anyone who spends but a short time in the country is this, that the particular territory that has been granted for practically nothing (again on the principle of Heads the Syndicate wins, Tails the Government lose) to a syndicate with neither "a body to be kicked nor a soul to be saved" is the home of the great friendly Masai tribe. The Masai are warriors and pastoralists, and have, from the earliest days, been most friendly, indeed had they been otherwise the railway might have cost not only millions more money, but hundreds of lives, and very possibly indeed might have been abandoned altogether. And this is the reward the Masai get, 500 square miles of their country granted for practically nothing to speculators.

CHAPTER VI

FUTURE PROSPECTS—PRICE OF LAND—DIFFICULTIES OF SETTLERS—WHAT COMMON-SENSE DICTATES.

THAT the country will be occupied peacefully cannot for a moment be believed. Possibly a few settlers will be established there armed to the teeth; they will have difficulty in buying stock, for the Masai will not sell; they will have a difficulty in getting labour, for the Masai will not work, any more than the syndicate individually, themselves would, for the simple reason, they are not used to it. Raids will certainly take place, and murders will be committed on both sides. The Government officials, the magistrates at every station, will find the great influence they now possess over the natives absolutely gone. The natives now regard the Government officials with the utmost goodwill, and look upon them as their protectors and friends. A sort of war will again break out, which will throw the country back, a generation or more, enormously increase the cost of administration, and bring indelible disgrace on the British name, and all for the purpose of possibly enriching a few speculators. And not only has this grant actually been made, possibly

subject to a few paper restrictions, which will doubtless be altered and evaded in any way to suit the convenience and add to the profits of the syndicate, but other syndicates, seeing how the Foreign Office can be squeezed, are also bringing pressure to get further similar concessions, and why should they not? What happens as far as one can understand is this. Syndicates select, and put in an application for, many thousands of acres or square miles. Having put in their application, and received possibly some official receipt, the next step is to treat the application as a concession, and endeavour to sell it to another Syndicate, and possibly to individual settlers at a handsome profit. That so-called land concessions are now being hawked about South Africa is common report. Is it too much then to have said that the land system is a chaotic muddle? The local administration is powerless, and what heart can one have in administering a country under the circumstances I have described. Estimates for the smallest amounts have to be sent home, and submitted to those who are quite ignorant of all the circumstances that from time to time arise. A telegraph receipt is made out in triplicate, one handed to the sender, one kept locally and I presume the third sent to be scrutinised by the Foreign Office. All this waste and trouble might easily be avoided, if the simple and sensible plan were adopted of making such a grant as the Government deemed suitable, and then leaving it to the local administration to expend the money to the best advantage as things now stand. Capable high-placed

Government officials, giving their best, giving their lives to the country they love, are hindered and thwarted by gentlemen from the Foreign Office. It is exactly the same as if a parent were to say to his boy at school: "My boy you will probably be allowed a shilling a week pocket money but you must send me it, and also send me always the receipts showing what you put in the plate on Sunday, what you spent on toffee, marbles, etc." The prudent parent gives his boy what he can afford, and lets him do the best he can with it, and if the Government would only repose a little more trust and confidence in their officials so far from home, and frankly say, "Your grant for the year is so much, and unless very exceptional circumstances arrive, it must not be exceeded, and you must do the best you can with it." The country is still a burden on the Treasury, and must be for some time to come, but if the cost of English and Indian soldiers were borne as it ought to be borne by the War Office, if the Foreign Office would cease from troubling over land, and if full confidence were reposed in the Governor, assisted by a Council of some of the leading officials, with mercantile and agricultural representation as it was available, then the country would soon be self-supporting, and not only provide a market for British trade, but a pleasant home for many a hard-pressed family that have difficulty in making ends meet in these Isles.

The rules for the purchase of lands under the

Crown Lands Ordinance, 1902, are liberal enough in some respects. You learn that agricultural land, often of most excellent quality, can be purchased outright for two shillings and eightpence per acre, but the settler has to pay survey fees, and wait for many a day for the survey. Homesteads may be purchased by instalments extending over sixteen years, two-pence per acre per year, and the settler may also acquire the right to secure a pre-emptive right over another 480 acres, provided he brings so much into cultivation. Further free grants of land to the extent of 640 acres will be given in some of the less desirable parts of the Protectorate.

Land Grants

Further Crown lands for grazing may be obtained at the rent of one half-penny per acre per year, and it is laid down that such area shall be not less than one thousand acres or more than ten thousand, provided that on the fulfilment of all the conditions presented by the rules the lessee may take up another area of similar size. It is difficult to draw the line between grazing and agricultural law. No one can deny that these terms are very liberal. No one who has got a general idea of the country will deny that the land is exceedingly cheap, and yet the results are exceedingly unsatisfactory, and in face of the rules laid down for the acquisition of land it is difficult to understand what evil genius prompted the Foreign Office to hand over a vast area to a speculative Land Syndicate.

The most desirable class of settlers (and unless we get that desirable class, we might just as well leave

the country alone) are those of good character, possessed of enough capital to carry them over at any rate the first three to five years, and who will be content to make an honest living, and see fair prosperity for their children in the future. Now, supposing a settler of that class were to desire to emigrate, he would find his path beset with difficulties from the outset. Instead of being able to take ships from London direct, he would probably find his best plan would be to proceed to Antwerp; from there he would get a good German ship to take him to Mombasa. The prospective settler with a limited capital would journey to Marseilles, Naples, or Trieste. This question of the mail service to the East Coast is deserving of the immediate attention of the Government. A very heavy subsidy is paid to the corresponding line that runs to the Cape direct, and it is a question if it would cost more if the Government insisted on their running a boat once a month to the Cape down the East Coast. At any rate, if the existing company refused to grant reasonable facilities, public competition would very soon bring them to their senses.

Well, our emigrant having got to Antwerp, will find himself exceedingly well done by till he reaches Mombasa, and there difficulties will again surround him. Hotels are scarce and very expensive; the language will be a hopeless mystery to him, but having probably heard that Nairobi is the centre of the Province and of the Land Administration, after considerable discomfort and expense, he will get a train

from Mombasa that will bring him to Nairobi in about twenty-four hours. The few nights he will have spent in Mombasa, in the sweltering heat, may possibly have induced him only to provide himself with light clothing—if so, before daybreak he or she will long for some thick woollen garments and blankets.

Arriving at Nairobi, and trusting his difficulties are over, he or she will again find their troubles are only beginning. There is only a small hotel, possibly full, so they may find it necessary to purchase a tent, and camp near the railway station, where good but expensive meals can be obtained.

Finding his way to the land office, the settler will be lucky if he find the land officer and chief surveyor in, but as that gentleman is not only supposed to attend to the land office, make close enquiries into the character and position of every settler, (for under rule 11 "Every holding shall be subject to the approval of the land officer, who may refuse to accept any application on showing reason"), and also personally to survey the hundreds of applications that have to be dealt with in the Protectorate—570 miles by the railway from the German Boundary on the south to Deserts and Abyssinia on the north, in some places for over 200 miles—it will be at once understood that it is exceedingly unlikely that the settler will find this gentleman at home. If he does he will be lucky, as the present holder of the office is very anxious to afford every information and assistance in his power, but without the power of dividing himself into fifty

different officers, as energetic and capable as himself, it is absolutely impossible to overtake the work. As for the settler, although unoccupied land is for present purposes more than abundant, he will find it only with the greatest difficulty, and without the Government being in a position to afford any practical assistance. "Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink." Land for speculation, land for syndicates, but for the man the country wants, no assistance whatever. He may spend his time and waste his money looking for land, and then more than likely find it is in the grasp of some syndicate or other. Now if the paralysing effect of the Foreign Office were removed, and local knowledge and experience brought into play, all this state of things might be altered in the course of a few months. The Protectorate is divided into six provinces, each ruled over by sub-commissioners and collectors—really high-class magistrates. The Commissioner—really Governor—with a Deputy-Commissioner, rules, as far as the Treasury and the Foreign Office permit, over the whole Protectorate; and the military are under his control. All over the different provinces stations are established, ruled over by the Magistrates, whose duties are onerous and require great judgment and discretion, as they possess very considerable powers of punishment. Each of these stations is now a centre of civilisation, and each should be a centre of settlement. Each station should have reserved, round or near it, a very considerable extent of land, much more than the mile now authorised, should at least have a



LOCAL INDUSTRY. MAKING BARK CLOTH.



NATIVE GARDENERS.

duly qualified surveyor with one or two capable assistants, and as far as possible should practically grow its own food, instead of carting and carrying it over miles of rough road, at a great and quite wasteful, and useless expense.

Each station then being provided with a suitable survey staff, and being a centre of civilization, and settlement, could provide (without any cost to the Government) adequate accommodation for settlers at a reasonable rate. No buildings of a permanent character would be required, for most comfortable grass huts can be provided practically without cost. A large moss hut, with sleeping huts round, will be all that is necessary in the meantime. Settlers on their arrival in Mombasa should be met by a Government officer, who should be able to make arrangements for their maintenance at a reasonable rate, instead of putting them to the expense of hotel life. It can never be too strongly impressed on those in authority that the very best class of settler may be those to whom a few pounds is of great importance. The Government officer should give every assistance in his power, and the settler could make his choice among the various stations, and having made his selection, should proceed to his destination without any delay. There he would be cordially welcomed, and doubtless find other settlers in a similar position to himself, and in a few months a very considerable and accurate knowledge of the country would be acquired. No time would be wasted hunting for land. As suitable sized areas

were surveyed, they would steadily be occupied by industrious settlers, and to some extent it would be advisable for some time to keep settlers together, so that they could materially assist each other, and schools could be established and necessary religious services. This is the only possible way of settling the country satisfactorily. Speculators and syndicates must be sternly repressed. Yearly grazing rights could be granted which would produce revenue and encourage pastoral pursuits, and would not hinder settlement, and if emigrants could embark from England and land direct in Mombasa, be kindly received there by Government officers, and proceed at once to a Government station, where they could live at a very cheap rate and gain experience, the result would be entirely satisfactory. Many enquiries satisfy me that a very small sum per week, probably five shillings or less, would quite recoup the station, provided such food as mutton, maize, potatoes and other vegetables were grown on the spot.

If Government would adopt some such plan of assisting and encouraging emigration, and which would entail no further burden on the Treasury (except the absolutely essential cost of survey, for which they would soon be recouped) colonisation could be materially assisted by well-disbursed leases at home. Farmers and crofters' sons, workmen, young men full of life, hope and strength but unable, possibly, largely on account of these advantages, to pass the necessary examination for army and civil life, could all find a home and a living in this country.

I cannot conclude without expressing my deep sense of gratitude for the many acts of kindness which we received, the assistance afforded, and which enabled us in a short time to learn a great deal of the country. From Sir Charles Eliot, the Commissioner, we received the greatest consideration, and by his kindness, and that of Mr. Hobley, the Deputy-Commissioner, we were enabled by "Safaria" to visit the beautiful country of Eldoma Ravine. Mr. George Wilson, C.B., Dr. Moffatt, Mr. Cunningham, Colonel Coles, Mr. Martin at Entebe, at Kampala Captain Elias, Bishop Tucker, the White Fathers at Rubaya, and the Fathers of the Mill Hill Mission at Nasembia, the different collectors and magistrates we met at Naivasha—Mr. Hobley, Mr. Gilkinson, Mr. Ainsworth, Mr. M'Clellan, Messrs. Grant, Foaker and Hope; to the railway officials—Messrs. Currie, Cruickshank, Anderson, Hardisty, Stanley, Wilson; to Messrs. Linton, Stordy, Hopton, and Peffer of the Agricultural Department; to Mr. Barton Wright, the Chief Surveyor Land Officer. To one and all, we return our sincere and heartfelt thanks for their hospitality, kindness, and consideration, and even more important, their desire to afford us every information in their power.

CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSION

NOTHING afforded me more pleasure in East Africa and Uganda than the tone and manner of all the officials I came in contact with towards the Natives. The "damned nigger" tone is entirely absent except from a certain element of South African speculators who talk very bravely that they would never allow themselves to be arrested for an offence by the Native Police. Much too big for their boots; they will find public opinion very much against them, as well as law.

The Rules for the purchase of land under the Crown Land Ordinance are admirable, liberal and leave nothing to be desired (see Appendix III.). The handbook published by the authority of Sir Charles Eliot is full of valuable and accurate information, and I willingly endorse such passages as the following from the Handbook:—

"But it is not to the Littoral, rich as it has been shewn to be, that European settlers are most likely to look as a field for their activities. The completion of the Uganda Railway has opened up vast territories in the interior which are eminently suited for coloniza-



WILLING WORKERS.



GRAND BOULEVARD, KAMPALA.

tion, possessing as they do not only great natural fertility and a supply of native labour both cheap and abundant, but also a climate which may almost be described as ideal. Such are the districts round Nairobi and Naivasha on the Kikuyu, and Mau Escarpments and on the Nandi Plateau."

"But settlers will be attracted to these districts, not only by their agricultural and economic possibilities, but by the picturesque grandeur of their scenery and unrivalled opportunities they offer for sport."

"The day is not far distant when the country will be covered with snug homesteads, each surrounded by its substantial stables and cattle sheds, orchards and gardens, while the country, as far as the eye can see, will be a rippling expanse of golden grain or snowy cotton blending into the forest-clad steppes of the Mau and Kikuyu and backed by the magnificent peaks of Kenya and Kilima Nyaw."

Of what then do I complain? I complain of the paralysing blight of the Foreign Office, of its secrecy, the favour it shows land speculators and of its incapacity to grasp the primary considerations of land settlement. The Foreign Office require the administrators to make bricks without straw, under the utterly absurd excuse that if a certain sum were granted to the Governor to be administered by him and a Council of good men that they would clearly share his responsibility, Parliamentary control would suffer, the most absurd restrictions are imposed. Estimates have to be made out and submitted to and criticised by persons here of necessity entirely ignorant of their duties. There is not a shadow

of Parliamentary control in the details of the Estimates, and it is impossible, under existing circumstances, for officials in East Africa and Uganda to deal in any way or a satisfactory manner with affairs as they arise from day to day.

The Land Regulations are, as I have said, liberal and admirable, but what about grants to speculative syndicates; 500 square miles in one block; other large grants to private speculators. At one station where I happened to be, a party, possibly representing some South African Syndicate, was camped among peaceful natives with eighteen dogs and demanding some thirty thousand acres. Other persons are at the present moment, or were a few months ago, hawking about in South Africa grants that they understood they were to get, valuable lands for close settlement, taking in both sides of rivers. Worst of all the mysterious offer of cession of territory to an alien race. The Foreign Office has already dragged us into the Somaliland Campaign. By their attitude in dealing with land questions in East Africa, they are on the high road to leading the country into a still more deplorable campaign against natives who have been good friends and who are good fellows all round. We will have another punitive expedition, thousands of natives will be slain or perish, the settlement of the country will be grievously retarded, and many of our gallant soldiers will die in most inglorious warfare.

Can one valid reason be given for this favouritism to land speculators, syndicates and foreigners?

Trouble with the natives must come. We have spent millions in acquiring a controlling interest in the country, and many valuable lives. It is nothing short of a national disgrace that it should not be the heritage of our sons, a dwelling-place for our own people.

Absolutely nothing is done to encourage *bonâ fide* settlement. Rich men can get land, poor men do not know where to go, which way to turn. Hundreds of young men possessed of limited capital would gladly go there, not to make their fortunes, but to make a home and a living, which is the one principal object of settlement; they would be the forerunners of settlements and in their wake would follow others and soon the country would prosper amazingly. To help such would absolutely cost the Government nothing; all they want is to know where to go and be able to live at their own expense, but under the friendly guidance of the Government at some of the stations.

The problem is simply this: Here we have a magnificent estate full of promise, and except by the aid of German, French or Austrian ships we can't get there. The service provided by the British India, which costs the country £9,000 a year, is quite valueless for developing the commercial resources of the country or assisting British emigration. This magnificent estate is endangered, and we are running grave chances of great national discredit and disgrace through the policy of the Foreign Office in neglecting the natural way of developing the country

for the sake of enriching land speculators and land syndicates. Without access and freedom from bureaucratic control the country must for long be a serious burden upon the British taxpayer.



SCENES IN THE MARKET PLACE, KISUMA.

APPENDIX I

THE PROSPECTS OF BRITISH EAST AFRICA*

BY J. MCARTHUR

LORD DELAMERE'S remarkable emigration scheme and the offer made by the British Government to the Zionist Congress of a portion of land in British East Africa wherewith to found a Jewish colony have again brought that little-known protectorate into public notice. Most people of these islands have a very hazy notion of the extent, nature, or resources of the East Africa Protectorate. This is the more wonderful considering the interest that was taken in the building of the Uganda Railway, which traverses this protectorate its full length of five hundred and eighty-four miles from the coast to the terminus at Port Florence on the shores of Lake Victoria Nyanza. The present Consul-General, Sir Charles Eliot, is doing his best to bring the possibilities of the protectorate before his countrymen.

A glance at the map of Africa will show that the East Africa Protectorate extends, roughly, from the

*Reprinted from *Chambers Journal* of May 14th, 1904, by kind permission of Mr. McArthur and of Messrs. W. and R. Chambers Ltd.

Indian Ocean on the east to the Victoria Nyanza on the west, and from German East Africa on the south to Abyssinia on the north. In the partition which took place of the East Coast of Africa, Britain came off decidedly well, and with characteristic energy addressed herself to the task of developing this new asset. Here was an immense track of land without roads or waterways, and closed to all but an occasional big-game hunter or traveller. Behind it lay another vast unexplored protectorate—Uganda. How were these to be opened up to the enterprise of her subjects? The answer was the Uganda Railway. Though avowedly built primarily for political reasons, it must be admitted that in the railway lay the only hope of developing the resources of the two protectorates. And whatever charges of mismanagement may be brought against the railway committee, or however much we may rue the millions that it has cost the nation, the Uganda Railway, considering the difficulties that had to be overcome in its construction, is a superb monument to the energy, enterprise, and determination of our fellow-countrymen.

The change that has taken place in the protectorate since the railway was undertaken is little short of miraculous. Instead of a few isolated Government officials upholding precariously the authority intimidated by the flag waving in front of their tent-door, townships are springing up. Chief of these is Nairobi, the headquarters of the railway management, situated about three hundred and twenty-five miles distant from Mombasa. The telegraph now traverses the length and breadth of the land. The journey to Uganda, which formerly occupied months, is now a matter of a few days. Instead of a trackless wilderness, the whole protectorate lies open waiting

the advent of the planter and the farmer. Probably in Mombasa, the capital of the protectorate, more than anywhere else is the change seen. What was a few years ago an unimportant conglomeration of wattle and mud huts is to-day an important seaport, which promises soon to rival Zanzibar. The 'iron shanty' of the pioneer is disappearing before neat tile-roofed bungalows; while the solidly built law-courts, two fine hotels, and the palatial buildings recently opened by the National Bank of India give an air of business prosperity to the place.

It is true that the completion of the Uganda Railway has not been followed by that rapid improvement in trade expected by many. A temporary depression seems rather to have set in owing to the departure of so many of those who were employed in the construction of the railway. This is understandable when it is remembered how much everything at present depends on the money disbursed by the Government. No great improvement need be expected until private enterprise steps in and money begins to circulate more freely among the natives. The foreign element is very strong among the merchant community. German, Italian, French, and Dutch firms are engaged in the import and export trade, and completely outnumber the British firms, and the retail trade is chiefly carried on by Indians and Goanese. It is interesting, as bearing on the agitation for a subsidised line of steamers from England to East Africa, to know that since the establishment of a direct steamship service by the British-India Company such heavy merchandise as cement and corrugated-iron sheets are imported almost entirely from England, whereas these articles were formerly imported mainly from Germany. It is painful to know that in that branch

of trade which is most likely speedily to expand—namely, the trade in piece-goods and cotton sheetings—we are entirely out in the cold. America supplies the cotton sheetings, while Germany and Holland send most of the piece-goods. This is entirely due to the deplorable lack of enterprise on the part of the British firms in Mombasa. The exports from British East Africa are insignificant considering the extent of the territory. Such as they are, they are completely in the hands of the foreigner. Ivory, of course, is the principal export. Rubber is exported in considerable quantities, and is at present occupying the attention of the Government. The export of hides and copra is rapidly increasing—especially the latter, which might be quite an important industry could the natives be deterred from ruining the cocoa-nut trees for the manufacture of *tembo* (palm-wine). There are a few insignificant exports, such as gum-copal and wax.

But the trade of the East Africa Protectorate must remain insignificant and its financial position wretched as long as imports are paid for chiefly by the subsidy granted by the British Government, and exports depend on the bounty of nature. The railway, too, must remain a tax on this country as long as there is little or nothing for it to carry. It must be remembered, however, in estimating the loss on the working of the railway that a very substantial saving is now effected in the transport department of the administration. The British people are so used to hear of the abounding prosperity of the colonies that they are apt to look askance on a protectorate which calls for a subsidy to the tune of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year, including the subvention for the Uganda Railway. The chief sources of revenue

at present are the customs duties and the hut-tax. There is so little money circulating among the natives that in many instances it is found necessary to accept the payment of the hut-tax in labour or in produce. A small revenue is derived from sporting licenses, gun-taxes, registration fees, etc. But small as the revenue of the protectorate is, it is the utmost that can be produced by taxation, and it is not likely that the ingenuity of His Majesty's Commissioner will be able to find new sources from which to augment his depleted treasury.

What, then, is to bring prosperity to this British East Africa and raise it to the status of a self-supporting colony? It is impossible to predict what course the development of a new country may take. The discovery of gold in the protectorate, may any day change the scene 'as by the stroke of an enchanter's wand,' and we shall awake some morning to find a new Transvaal in the heart of Africa. The search for minerals is being carried on by quite an army of prospectors, and it is on the success of this investigation that most of the inhabitants base their hopes for a speedy change in the fortunes of the protectorate.

But apart from minerals there is the more certain, if less dazzling, prospect of finding prosperity in the soil of the protectorate. Mr. Chamberlain, with his usual acumen, hit the nail on the head in his speech to the members of the Mombasa Club. He said that though the discovery of minerals might reasonably be expected, it was rather to exports of rubber and cotton that we should look for the future prosperity of the protectorate. Pessimists in this country declare that since agriculture has not been tried on anything like a large scale its success is problematic. But the writer has not heard this view expressed by

any who have been in the country and have beheld its wonderful fertility. Between Nairobi and the Mau escarpment lie thousands of acres of the most fertile soil uncultivated and supporting countless herds of zebra and antelope. Here at Kikuyu and Nairobi are to be found the *shambas*, or farms, of the first British settlers, who fondly hoped that they were but the forerunners of that army of burly British farmers who were to put backbone into a country overrun by languid Asiatics.

True, agriculture is but in its beginnings in British East Africa. The few settlers around Nairobi give their attention chiefly to potatoes. This is owing to the demand from South Africa. Even the modest potato possesses potentialities undreamt of here. They grow to great perfection at Nairobi; but the lack of cold storage in the steamers running to South Africa makes it difficult to place them on the market in good condition. When this and other drawbacks are overcome a very profitable industry will be established. The success which has attended the potato industry is but an indication of what might be done if agriculture were pursued on a proper scale. Most European cereals and vegetables grow admirably, and thus the settler need not confine his attention to purely tropical products. Climate, of course, is a determining factor in agricultural undertakings, and here in British East Africa are to be had almost all varieties of climate. While at the coast the temperature hardly ever falls below eighty degrees in the shade, in the high uplands it is usual to have frost in the mornings. Thus, while wheat, oats, barley, etc., could be grown in the higher latitudes, the cultivation of tropical products could be undertaken in the low-lying districts. The recent Agricultural Show held at Mombasa gave an idea of the number

of economic plants which may be cultivated and which at present grow, for the most part wild, within the Protectorate. Castor oil, coffee, cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, and numerous fibre-plants were exhibited in their natural and manufactured states. It is of interest to know, in view of the recent cotton famine, that the fine black soil around the Victoria Nyanza is pronounced by experts as especially suitable for the cultivation of the cotton-plant. Rice, at present brought in such large quantities from India, could be grown all over the land. Indian corn is grown in large quantities by the natives. With proper cultivation and the introduction of the red Kaffir corn an enormous export trade could be done with South Africa. But why multiply instances? Enough has been said to show that, even if minerals should fail, there is abundant hope for the future prosperity of the protectorate in the development of its agricultural resources.

To the settler with only a limited capital British East Africa does not hold out much prospect of fortune-making. The want of a local market for his produce, the expense of transport, etc., militate against his success. A comfortable living could no doubt be made; but beyond that he would be foolish to fix his expectations. Capital is what the country most needs at present—the advent of companies who could invest considerable sums in developing its resources and wait a few years probably for a return.

A word on behalf of the natives of the protectorate. Was there ever a more misrepresented lot of men? They are idle and lazy and given to dissolute habits, unfit for any hard work: so we are told. Have they ever been given a fair trial? The efforts being made at Lovedale and at Blantyre on Lake

Nyassa under Dr. Laws are in the right direction. In addition to religious training, there is industrial training in many of the arts of more civilised life. The land-laws, however, will need considerable modifying before British East Africa enters the running with the Canadian north-west as an attraction to farmers. Not that land is not to be had in plenty—it is the inane, petty exactions laid down by the Government officials that make the would-be settler flee the country.

Mr. J. Cathcart Wason, M.P., after a visit, declared that it would become a second New Zealand, and now that the old colonies were filling up, emigration should be directed towards East Africa. He was convinced of the utility of the Uganda Railway, which would be cheap in the end at six million pounds. Sir Harry Johnston, the author of a big book on the country, has said that East Africa afforded an area of eighteen thousand square miles to British settlers in a country which was nothing short of an earthly paradise. Mr. Stordy, veterinary officer to the Government, has stated that to the agriculturist its soil is capable of yielding the finest crops and of rearing the cattle and sheep. The British Government has introduced a large number of live stock for the purpose of improving the breed of the native herds, which had deteriorated by native in-breeding. Mr. Stordy has made experiments in the taming of the zebra for riding and traction purposes which promise to be successful. It is immune to the bite of the tsetse fly, which is not only the direct cause of the deaths of so many animals, but another species is said to be also responsible for the Uganda "sleeping sickness" now the subject of close inquiry.

A correspondent of the *Times* has described a re-



BAZAAR AT KAMPALA.



BAZAAR AT KAMPALA.

markable emigration scheme of Lord Delamere's, the big-game hunter, who for the past two years has been in East Africa. His Lordship has purchased round Nairobi one hundred thousand acres of land for general farming and breeding, experimental growing, etc. He has been guaranteed fifty square miles of land, and offers this free to fifty suitable settlers. The best free plots are between Elburgon and Fort Fernan, and within the railway zone. Lord Delamere says that the Foreign Office policy of hitherto treating this most wonderful country as private estate is responsible for the present sparseness of settlers. The following are extracts from his messages: "There are enormous timber trees, evergreens, grasses, and clovers; perennial streams abound; the climate is temperate—it will grow anything; and this is a chance in a thousand for men with little money. Each person of age in a household may have free 640 acres. Such land in Australia and New Zealand is worth ten pounds and twenty pounds per acre. English vegetables, wheat, oats, barley, roots, fruit, etc., grow splendidly without irrigation. Potatoes are the staple crop and command good prices in South Africa. Coffee, in which I am sure there is a future, simply grows like weed. For sheep-grazing land can be leased up to ten thousand acres at a halfpenny an acre per annum. Tobacco and cotton offer a good return. Cotton has been produced in experimental plots valued at sixpence per pound. It should give a good return with land and labour cheap. Directly markets are fixed land will go up. It is now absurdly cheap." Lord Delamere trusts his free land scheme will have the desired effect. Agriculturists are said to be chiefly wanted. The artisan's day will come later.

Altogether, hitherto little encouragement has been

given to merchant, trader, or farmer. Possibly, the administration have not been anxious for any considerable increase in the white population until they were in a position to offer them protection. But now that the railway is completed and the warlike spirit of the more troublesome tribes subdued, it is to be hoped that they will inaugurate a more generous policy than they have pursued in the past. With a generous and wise administration, British East Africa is sure to attract capital as its resources become known; and in a few years we may hope to see a most prosperous colony.

APPENDIX II.

SIR CHARLES ELIOT'S RESIGNATION*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MORNING POST."

SIR,—The amazing indiscretion of the Government in publishing the despatches relating to the resignation of Sir Charles Eliot is but another proof how particularly ill-adapted the Foreign Office is to deal with semi-native colonial questions. A gentleman of Sir Charles Eliot's position and standing in the Diplomatic Service goes to an embryo colonial dependency and gradually finds that what the Foreign Office want is a telephone receiver and not an administrator of standing and position. No one is more capable of undertaking the defence of Sir Charles Eliot than himself, but meantime I desire to direct public attention to a few points relative to the gross mismanagement of affairs in East Africa.

Here we have a country, in the opinion of everyone, admirably adapted for European settlement. The railway has been made, and well made, at an enormous cost through the country, and yet, though the country is sparsely populated by natives, settlement is a mere fiction. If the Government had granted a committee or commission to inquire into the causes of Sir Charles Eliot's resignation I think it would have been made abundantly clear that from

*From the *Morning Post* of July 14th, 1904

the day of his taking over the Commissionership he has been persistently badgered and reproached by the Foreign Office for not getting more settlers on to the land by hook or by crook. The only field from which it has been possible for him to draw settlers is and has been South Africa. The country, owing to the difficulties of getting there, is practically shut to British settlers. £9,000 a year is paid to the British India Company for conveyance of mails and passengers from Aden; £9,000 a year which, for any practical good to anyone, might as well be chucked into the street. For probably much less money arrangements could doubtless be made with the German East Africa Company to let their direct steamers call at Southampton until the Government is in a position to support a line of our own. In the meantime an immigrant has to go at considerable extra expense to Antwerp. The East Africa Syndicate come on the field, a speculative company who receive concessions to explore and exploit the country for minerals, and minerals only, and do so at the expenditure of some £30,000. They do not see their way to develop the minerals they have discovered, but naturally explorations under control of able men have given them an unrivalled knowledge of the country, and the Foreign Office is persuaded to grant to them five hundred square miles of the very pick of the Masai grazing grounds on absurdly favourable terms. The Jewish syndicate come on the field, a philanthropic, speculative company, and they receive a direct offer from the Foreign Office of five thousand square miles, including, I now understand, the Nandi Plateau, which is, so far from being uninhabited, the home of a warlike intractable tribe, who always are a source of anxiety to those responsible for the tranquillity of the country.



SCENES AT THE SLEEPING SICKNESS HOSPITAL, KISUMA.

Sir Charles Eliot, finding great grants being given away and offered in this fashion, and doubtless anxious to follow even at a remote distance the steps of those in authority over him, and also doubtless acting on the instructions persistently given him to get settlers, agrees with a South African Syndicate for the purchase, not of five thousand square miles, but of the more modest trifle of one hundred square miles, and his legal advisers tell him that his offer is a binding one. Apart from legality, Sir Charles Eliot considers that he is bound, as a man of honour, to implement the bargain that he has made, and rather than break his pledged word resign his Commissionership and his career in the service of his country. Surely there is much in this to command our respect and admiration. My Lord Lansdowne or his subordinates can dispose of five thousand square miles, and five hundred square miles for practically nothing; the trusted Commissioner on the spot, instructed persistently to get settlers and use every effort to develop the country, is placed between the upper and nether millstones, and his action repudiated by his superiors.

While entirely sympathising with Mr. Jackson's views on the land question and our duties towards the natives, I think it is utterly deplorable that the Government should have published despatches which contain expressions evidently made in circumstances of extreme irritation and adverse climatic conditions, and which must have been meant for the ear of Lord Lansdowne alone. The harm which may ensue among natives who have trusted us implicitly is incalculable, and another stone is given to the Congo Free State to hurl at us, which they will not be slow to do. The mischief is done, and is for the time irreparable, and is but another proof of the incompetency of the

Government to adopt the plain rules of honest commonsense to the government of the country. Certainly there is nothing in the correspondence to justify Lord Percy's emphasised declaration that it was because he (Sir Charles Eliot) took a different view from the view we took as to the expediency of reserving a large area for the natives.—Yours, etc.,

J. CATHCART WASON.

House of Commons, July 13.

A special meeting of the Committee of the Farmers' and Planters' Association of B.E.A. was held in Nairobi at the offices of the Association on Tuesday, 28th inst., to consider what steps should be taken in regard to the resignation of Sir Charles Eliot. The Secretary explained that the meeting had been convened in response to a letter written him by the President of the Association (Right Hon. Lord Delamere) as follows:—

"Dear Mr. Newland,—I think it would be a pity if
 "Sir Charles Eliot were allowed to resign without
 "his services to white men here being acknowledged
 "by us in some way; I have had oppor-
 "tunities of judging, and I believe that every-
 "thing which has gone towards lightening the
 "burden of oppressive land laws and so on
 "which a year ago made life for the settler
 "almost impossible in this country, has been
 "initiated by him in many cases in the face of much
 "opposition. His resignation because he cannot
 "carry out Lord Lansdowne's orders telling him to
 "refuse land to private individuals explains many
 "things which have previously irritated people
 "applying to him lately. I should be glad if you
 "could call a meeting of the Committee of the
 "Farmers' Association in order that the matter may

"be placed before them; I shall be very glad to
"attend if the meeting can be held soon.—Yours
"faithfully,

"(Signed) DELAMERE."

Lord Delamere, having taken the chair, opened the meeting by briefly explaining its objects. After making reference to Sir Charles Eliot's resignation he drew attention to the fact that whilst Commissioner for the Protectorate he had done all in his power to help the white settler. He explained that the original land laws of the Protectorate before the advent of Sir Charles Eliot were absolutely impossible and prohibited all settlement of a white population on the land. Sir Charles had altered these laws as far as he could, often in the face of great opposition from the Home Authorities. Through his efforts it was now possible for the intending settler to obtain land; the speaker knew that even now there were certain difficulties, but these were small compared with those experienced in the early days of the Protectorate. It was at the late Commissioner's suggestion that Mr. Marsden was sent to South Africa to see to the interests of the East Africa Protectorate, and that his mission was not an unqualified success was no doubt due to the opposition received by Sir Charles in carrying the project through. He again said that Sir Charles had done what he could to render the country a white man's country, but was thwarted in many of his schemes not only by Home influence, but by men in the country—men who had possessed almost kingly power until his arrival and were now jealous of his influence. He had sacrificed his career in East Africa in the interest of the white settler and it was their duty to support him in the step he had taken.

Mr. Henry Tarlton then moved the following resolution:—

“That this Association hears with deep regret of the resignation of Sir Charles Eliot, and wishes to convey its great appreciation of the services he has rendered the Protectorate by working always in the interests of settlers and endeavouring to make it a white man’s country. The Association strongly supports Sir Charles’ demand for an enquiry and endorses the principle that no specially favourable terms and treatment should be accorded absentee corporations making applications for land grants in the Protectorate, but rather that preference should be given to private individuals likely to become residents and by their personal efforts further the prosperity of the country.”

This resolution was seconded by Mr. W. Russell Bowker, and on the suggestion of the Rev. P. A. Bennett, it was unanimously decided to cable the resolution to Lord Lansdowne, Right Hon. Gerald Balfour, Mr. Wason, M.P., and *The Times*, and to also forward a copy to Sir Charles Eliot.

It was decided that the cost of the cables should be borne by private subscriptions and not out of the funds of the Association. A list was opened forthwith, and those desirous of subscribing may do so by communicating with the Hon. Secretary.

(Signed) V. M. NEWLAND,
Hon. Sec. Planters’ and Farmers Association.



MT. SAU - OMB.



MONUMENT AT LUBA TO MAJOR THRUSTON, AND MESSRS. WILSON AND
SCOTT, WHERE THEY FELL.

APPENDIX III

Rules for the Purchase of Land Under the Crown Lands Ordinance, 1902.

General.

(1). The ordinary terms for the purchase of agricultural land of average quality for settlement shall be at the rate of Rs. 2 (2 shillings and eight pence) per acre.

(2). Every holding shall be subject to the approval of the land officer who may refuse to accept any application on shewing reason.

(3). The purchaser shall, within six months of the date of this agreement to purchase mark out the boundaries of his selection including any pre-empted land.

(4). Every land holder shall reside continuously upon his holding or leave a responsible person to represent him in case of absence.

(5). Ten per cent. of the area of every selection shall be kept in perpetuity as forest land. Selections where less than 10 per cent. of the areas is forest shall be planted with forest by the holder to bring the area under forest up to 10 per cent. of the total area.

Provided that if there be no forest on a selection the holder shall not be required to plant more than 2 per cent. and that it shall be in the discretion of the Conservator of Forests to dispense with the obligation entirely.

Purchases of Homesteads by Instalments.

In the following rules homesteads shall be understood to mean a holding purchased or to be purchased by instalments under those rules.

(14). The maximum area of a homestead selection to be purchased in this manner shall be 160 acres, provided that, when entering into an agreement to take up a homestead selection, the settler may reserve a right to take up a further area hereinafter referred to as pre-empted land not exceeding 480 acres.

(15). The purchase money for a homestead is payable at the end of three years.

Provided that the settler may spread the payment over a period of 16 years paying at the rate of 2 annas per acre per annum without interest and provided that the settler may pay the whole or part of the outstanding balance at any time in sums of Rs. 100 or a multiple thereof.

(16). At the expiration of three years from the date of agreement to take up a selections if all conditions appertaining to the holding have been fulfilled or when the full price has been paid, in the event of it being paid by instalments spread over more than three years a certificate of ownership herein referred to as the final certificate, shall be granted to the settler. In regard to pre-empted land the period of

three years will be calculated from the date of leave being given to enter into possession. Separate certificates will be given for the original homestead and for any pre-empted land.

(17). In every year for the first three years the settler shall bring 1-10 of his original holding under cultivation and shall keep all cultivated lands in good heart and condition until he acquires a final certificate.

Provided that as soon as he has cultivated 3-10 of the holding he shall not be compelled to cultivate any further portion.

(18). The right of pre-emption to pre-empted land shall subsist for three years, within which time if 3-10ths of the original holding have been brought under cultivation and all other conditions respecting the original holding have been fulfilled, the settler may proceed to cultivate the pre-empted land, but he shall not enter into possession thereof until he obtains permission from the land officer in writing, and such permission shall contain a certificate that all the conditions relating to the original holding have been fulfilled.

The settler shall cultivate 1-8th of the pre-empted land in each year after he has entered into possession thereof, and shall keep the cultivated land in good heart and condition.

Provided that as soon as he has cultivated 3-8th of such pre-empted land he shall not be compelled to cultivate any further portion.

(19). Every settler must begin to occupy his selection within six months from the date of agree-

ment and every settler shall, within three years, erect a living house of a reasonable permanent character upon his original holding.

(20). Until a final certificate has been granted a settler may not deal with his interest in his holding by sale, lease, mortgage or otherwise except by consent of the land officer. But on a final certificate being granted he shall be free to deal with the property as freehold subject to any condition imposed by the Crown Lands Ordinance (No. 21 of 1902) or by these rules.

All the time limits in the foregoing rules unless otherwise expressed refer to the beginning of a term to be named in the agreement, or if no such term is named, then to the date of execution thereof.

C. ELIOT

(H. M. Commissioner).

APPENDIX IV

Extracts from Report of Major Pringle, R.E., to Foreign Office.

The line is not only a most important factor in the development of East Africa and Uganda and in the opening out of a large sphere suitable for European colonization but it will also in the future prove a valuable asset.

It has already dealt the final death-blow to the Slave Trade in Africa.

The employment of Swahilis, Wakikuyu, and other natives of Africa in the shops as hammermen, riveters, and coolies is a pleasing feature, but I think that the employment of a small number of Africans as apprentices is desirable, so that they may be trained to become artisans, and eventually replace the skilled labour now obtained from India. The eventual result would be economy.

Nairobi. As the site for the future capital of East Africa and for permanent buildings, for Europeans, the sanitary engineer and the medical expert condemn it. Under the circumstances I cannot but urge upon His Majesty's Government the desirability of further con-

sidering this question before the construction of numerous buildings of a permanent type pledges them hopelessly to the adoption of a bad site.

I suggest therefore, that the wisest course to pursue will be to accept the present state of Nairobi as temporary only and to appoint a commission to select a new site for the permanent township.

Munonyo. This port is only 8 or 9 miles by road from Kampala, and the anchorage is protected, and therefore safer than at Entebe. There is a pier at the mouth of a small river, but it is of no use except for dhows. At present, any movement of goods from or to the steamer has to be made in the ship's boats, a slow and tedious proceeding. To provide facilities for any growth of traffic, a lighter will have to be provided, and some additions made to the pier, and possibly a goods shed may be required. This place is so much nearer to Kampala than Entebe, and the anchorage, as above stated is so much more sheltered that it must eventually prove the most important trade outlet for Uganda. Any additional facilities for traffic should, therefore, in my opinion, be provided here rather than at Entebe.

The permanent way inspectors informed me that for hard work the Swahili was equal if not superior to the native of India, but, so far, one only has been found with sufficient experience for the position of jamadar. I see no reason, however, to doubt that in the course of time the native of Africa will prove capable of all descriptions of maintenance work. It will be necessary to train them to take the place of

natives of India in all grades, if economy is to be studied. There is one objectionable trait in their character — they will only work steadily for a few months together before leaving with or without permission, to enjoy their earnings. There is no difficulty, however, in getting as many of them as may be required for the work.

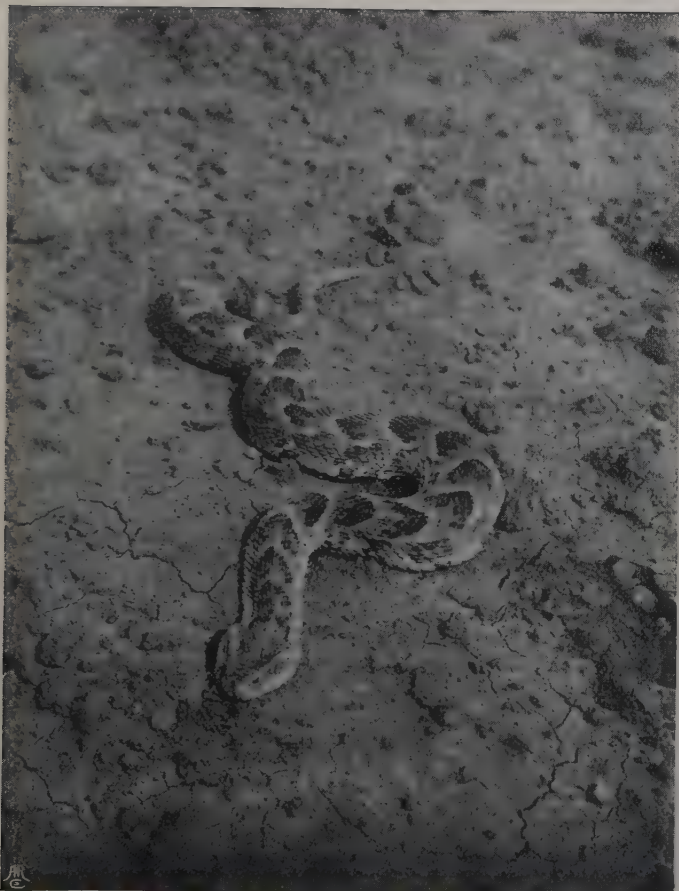
The Survey and Land Department of the East African Protectorate, which deals with the administration of the railway zone, does not appear to have a large enough staff to cope with the large number of land applications, which are being received. Apart from the obvious desirability of dealing promptly with such applications, for which an increase in staff is immediately necessary, it is of importance that points along the railway line should be fixed by a theodolite survey, whereon the individual surveys of land may be based and put together. Also that the land within the railway zone to which natives have established claims, or which it may be thought necessary to reserve for natives, should be surveyed, and the limits clearly defined and registered. Natives of India trained in the Survey Department, would be suitable for the work which the Department has before them.

The scale of fees at present in vogue for surveying in connection with land applications appears to require revision. It presses hardly upon applicants for small areas, and is also manifestly too high for applications on a large scale in view of the comparative extent of survey work involved.

APPENDIX V

A List of Some Books on East Africa and Uganda.

- SERVICE AND SPORT ON THE TROPICAL NILE.** Some Records of the Duties and Diversions of an Officer among Natives and Big Game during the Re-Occupation of the Nilotic Province. By Captain C. A. Sykes, R.H.A. With a Map and Illustrations from Photographs and from Drawings made by Major E. A. P. Hobday, R.F.A. *John Murray*, 1903. (12s. net.)
- AFRICAN INCIDENTS.** Personal Experiences in Egypt and Unyoro. By Brevet-Major A. B. Thruston. With an Introduction by General Sir Archibald Hunter, K.C.B., D.S.O. A Memoir of the Author by his Brother, E. H. Thruston, and an Account of Major Thruston's last stay in 1897 in the Protectorate, his Death, and the Mutiny of the Uganda Rifles. With Portrait, Maps, and Illustrations from the Author's Sketches. *John Murray*, 1900. (14s.)
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